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To our Grandchildren-

# The History of your Home and Surroundings

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From your grandfather
and grandmother Markham

M. L.

REYNOLDS HISTORICAL
GENEALOGY COLLECTION

FOREWORD TO YOU BOYS:

In every community there are those that scoff at any attempt to preserve local history, and the memory of their forefathers and mothers.

Daniel Webster, one of the brainest of men the United States ever produced, wrote that "the man who feels no sentiment of veneration for the memory of his forefathers, is himself unworthy of kindred regard or remembrance".

This work has taken hours of labor and research, but it has been a pleasure to get this information together, with the aid of numerous friends and I am especially indebted first to your Grandmother Markham for the hours of typewriting and correcting, to Miss Thurston and Mrs. Crawford of the Library, Miss Elsie Murray of the Tioga Point Museum, the Misses Maurice of Athens, the Kilpatricks of Wilawanna, Mr. Stevenson the retired engineer of Sayre, Father Walsh of the South Waverly Church, George Loop the retired mail carrier of Sayre, Low Core of Sayre, William Schrier of Athens, George Bonfoey of Sayre, and many other friends that have gladly and cheerfully given me information.

Signed as you have always known us,

MIN and BILL

Dedicated to my grandchildren, Bill, Jo, Bob and Manson. My object in writing this manuscript is to record the history of your home and surroundings as accurately as possible. Taken from the statements of what few old people that are left and the old histories. Also I want to record something of my travels and that of my father.
The idea is to get you to read something else besides farm papers, which I think is the narrowest thing you can read, if this is all you read.
Your local histories were written with the idea of at least paying for the book, therefore the people who did not have the money to buy a book were left out of the picture as a rule, and in a way it was right, as it cost money to print books. When the old histories were made, the only person on the west side of the Chemung River that had the right change was your great great grandfather, Manson Elsbree.

All governments except one, and that is Russia have what is known as an inner government that controls wealth, religion, church, schools and the majority of the press. The histories that we were brought up with were intended to make us good and useful citizens for the country to which we belonged, that is, if we placed private property rights above human rights.

All governments except two, and they are Russia and Switzerland, have a political head. Their purpose is to keep the rabble quiet; that is you and the rest of us workers. The purpose is the same, whether Prime Minister, President, King, Queen or the great rulers of India, China and Japan. It is done through their different religions or they stir them up on some things that does not affect private interests; such as the great prohibition movement, the gold and silver question. They hand out to the rabble such phrases as a chicken in every pot, the full dinner pail, prosperity just around the corner and the greates bunk of them all is being handed out by our present ruler of the White House, (1943), sixty million jobs. And the great majority of the workers will swallow it as they have in the past.

Just look at the histories that have been written on Napoleon. How much better off the old world would have been if he had been poisoned at birth. His life was not great because it was not good. His whole life was destruction by fire and sword until my grandfather helped put him out of commission at the battle of Waterloo, June 18, 1815.

No great books were ever written or mounments erected to the memory of the American pioneer. Today they sleep in long forgotten graves along the old stone fences on little knolls and along the creeks. A great many of them have been plowed up and the tombstones or markers used to build cesspools and for other purposes. These people were the guards of the oncoming civilization for us, and the comforts and privileges that we enjoy today.
Scalped by the Indians or burned at the stake, but as one went down, in time there were always two that took his place. How far more noble was the aim and end than that of Napoleon and thousands of others so called great men.
No volumes have been written on these humble men's aims and intentions which was to reclaim and make us our home to lift up our civilization and bring peace and happiness to all.

A very few books were ever written on Luther Burbank and see what he has helped nature produce. Through cross breeding of plants, he has brought out sixty different kinds that are good for man and beast, also several beautiful flowers.

One of the great things he did was to produce a thornless cactus. I have seen the cattle on the range with swollen and bleeding mouths from eating the old thorn variety, but Mr. Burbank's cactus have no thorns now.

We will take William Penn, he was probably the only Englishman that ever founded a government without bloodshed. He was a Quaker, this religious body was started in England in the middle of the seventeenth century by George Fox. Penn's father was an admiral in the British Navy and had loaned the King something like 15,000 pounds and this land grant was to pay him back. He received a land grant in the southern part of the present State of Pennsylvania and in the western part of New Jersey, from King Charles II, he sold this land to the settlers, $10.00 for one hundred acres. The land grant on the south conflicted with Lord Baltimore's land grant on the north. Two surveyors were sent here by England by the name of Mason and Dixon and this is where we get the name of the Mason and Dixon Line. It is the southern boundary of Pennsylvania, surveyed 1764 - 1769. He gave this colony more liberty than any other man or body of men that ever lived. His greatest fight was for civil liberty and religious freedom, he was arrested four times, thrown in jail, tried by a jury of twelve men. He pleaded his own case and was acquitted, but the Judge gave him two years. He made a treaty with the Indians and it was the only treaty that was never broken by a white man.

He is always pictured as a fat man, but he was rather slender and was the greatest athlete of that time.
I could go on and name a great many others just as great. He was a great thinker. He was one of the men that stood on the side line and observed the mob as it passed by, he was always seeking the truth, most people seek the truth and when they find it, they dont want it and look for something else.

The local histories were mainly about people who accumulated wealth by exploiting labor, not the man that fought the Indians, cut the forests, cultivated the land, built the houses out of mud and logs. This is the forgotten American. No matter what his religion, color, race or land of birth, this is the type of people we owe our way of life as we enjoy it to-day.

We will go back before the Indians, we will find marks left by the mound builders. This race of people was scattered over the north central part of the United States, quite a few in the State of Ohio, but the only thing they left was mounds representing serpents, animals, places of worship and a few pieces of pottery.

To the south of us, where Cortez, the Spanish butcher, fought his way into the City of Mexico, Nov. 18, 1519, he found the Aztecs who worshipped the sun. See my Aztecs calendar. To the south of this in Yucatan, Chichenitza, the holy city of Kukulcan, the God of the feathered serpent. A city in Yucatan with a population of 500,000, and twelve square miles. There were several other cities like this and the same race called Mayas, they ground their corn on hollowed stone, all clearing was done with stone axes. This one of mine came from there.

Dr. S. G. Morley, working for the Carnegie Institute, with the permission from the Mexican Government did considerable excavating there.
This race was the first one hundred per cent American to establish a real civilization and it was done when the people in Europe were living in caves and drawing pictures of animals on the stones along the trail.

They did all their work without metal tools or animals of any kind. They survived for about 2000 years. No one knows from whence they came or how their civilization was broken up, but probably by the Aztecs from the north. Yucatan is a dry country. They get their water by letting gourds down in the crevices of the lime-stone. All dirt was carried in baskets on the heads of slaves. The artists of those days surpassed the artists of today, as to artistic buildings and carved designs. They used the step back buildings as you see the modern buildings in New York today. These buildings have survived for centuries and perhaps the only buildings built by all American labor. They were the first to use rubber. They had a tuber three times the size of our potato and corn that bore in six weeks. They drilled a hole in the lime stone with flint, plugged it with wood, then wet the plug and the swelling of the wood would split the stone. They were very religious and from birth to death, placed their faith in the high priest. They would sacrifice the virgins to their god by throwing them in the sacred well.

A very good friend of mine by the name of Mitchell Hedges, an English explorer and writer, one of the smoothest liars I ever heard, but one of the most interesting persons to listen to that I ever met. He explored this whole section, so he claims.

To the south of this in the Andes, the countries of Peru and Bolivia were a race of people called the Incas, Pizarro, another Spanish butcher in 1531 to 1533 sailed along the coast until he induced a few of the natives on board, He gave them little presents, made all kinds of promises and let them go ashore and let them tell the people what a great race of people were on board the boats. Then the natives allowed him to come ashore and he soon had the natives divided and fighting each other, then he went in with his armor and slaughtered them by the thousands and enslaved the balance. This was all done in the name of Spain and the cross. One can see the old ruins today. They had large cities, well laid out. They learned the way of tempering copper which is a lost art today.

Charles Hamilton, an engineer on the Peruvian Central Railroad married into one of the old Spanish families. They gave him a piece of the tempered copper. You will see one of the Inca gods in my cabinet. This is where the alpaca cloth comes from. The animal is a relative of the Yamma. This is the way they pronounce it there. Their fleece is two feet long, but only about ten inches is cut off at a time. The Yamma is related to the camel and is used as a beast of burden, used to carry silver ore and supplies. They weigh from 400 to 600 pounds. One of the larger ones will carry loads of 100 pounds, but will lay down and die before they will carry any more. They will walk all day with this pack, up and down the narrow paths of the high Andes. They are used above the seven thousand foot sea level. Mules are used below this level.

Another article in my collection is several pieces of eight solid silver and eight pieces to the dollar. Used by the first Spanish in South America. Always mentioned by Morgan, Drake and other English pirates of that day. This money was given to me by a friend of mine, Mr. E. Hope Norton who owns a large plantation at the mouth of the Guaguayaquil River in Equador. The vessel carrying the coin was being chased by the pirates, it hit a rock right opposite his plantation and was lost. Some of it is still washed ashore when a storm comes from the southwest. His men found a few pieces and saved it for me. It was to be used to pay off the Spanish soldiers.

This is the country you kids should live in, due to the lack of fire wood,

they have but very few fires, only for cooking, and when you call on a neighbor you keep your hat and poncho on. The poncho is a square piece of cloth with a slit cut in the center, this slips down over the head and rests on the shoulders and is usually made from the alpaca cloth.
This would save you a lot of time looking for your coat and hat when the whole family is trying to get you ready for school.

While I am here I better tell you about the birds and fish: In going up and down the west coast of South America, one travels for sixteen hundred miles and no vegetation only where the water is brought down by pipe line from the Andes. The absence of rainfall is due to the high altitude of the mountains. One of these mountains is Aconcagua, in the southern part is 23,290 feet high.
The Humbolt current originates in the Atlantic near the south pole, flows north and terminates in the Bay of Panama, and at six A. M., while crossing the Equator, it was cold enough to wear an overcoat if you stood out on the open deck; while due west at the Galapagos Islands it would be hot, due east at Quito, Equador, 11,500 ft. above sea level it would be cold at night and right on due east at the mouth of the Amazon River in Brazil it would be hot and muggy.
Off the coast of Peru is a group of islands where the birds roost and I have seen the bird manure thirty feet thick. This is due to the lack of rainfall. This bird manure or guano is twenty-three times as strong as cow manure. It is gathered and sold for fertilizer. All vegetables are grown by irrigation. The finest looking strawberries you ever saw and other fruit, but there is no taste to them. The finest fruit and grain is grown near the 45th parallel in New York State, but the tobacco is what got me, I could not smoke it. I paid a dollar and a quarter for two ounces of English tobacco.
Wherever there is salt water there are sardines, they are a small silver fish which grow to be six inches long. I have noticed them along the coast at daybreak. They move from the ocean to the swamps which is brackish water. These swamps are connected with the ocean and at nightfall the fish move out again to the sea. The sardine is food for all fish in the ocean and all water fowl. They come to the top when attacked by the fish and this is where the birds get in their work.
Standing on the bridge of a large ocean liner seventy-five feet from the water, I have seen a line of these birds, cormorant, pelicans, and two other kinds, to my right, reaching down over the horizon, and the same on my left looking for food. These are the birds that roost on these islands, they have certain islands to nest on and while nesting they are so tame you can put your hands on them and the nests are so thick you can hardly walk without stepping on them
Let's us go back to about 1435, in the city of Genoa, Italy there was born into this world a little boy and they called him Christopher Columbus, his parents were poor, he was strong in will power and of good principle, he always had a longing for the sea and was trained for that. At that time the most westernly known islands were the Azores, Maderia, Canary and Cape Verde Islands. They had found on the coast of these islands the bodies of strange people and several pieces of carved wood. At that time there was a great trade going on between the cities of the Mediterranean and the east Persia and India, they were trading in expensive shawls, spices and silks, transportation was by camel or on the shoulders of slaves. At that time it was believed that the world was flat, but Chris had a hunch that it was round; people thought him crazy. He thought that by sailing west he would reach the East Indies where part of this merchandise came from.

About this time the Turks had conquered Constantinople, this cut off the trade route to the east; also about this period they invented the compass and the astrolabe. The latter was an instrument to reckon latitude and now has been replaced by the quadrant and the sextant. Prior to these inventions the people of the world were compelled to stay in sight of land, excepting the Norsemen and Vikings to the north, they just sailed out on the high seas, did not know where they were going nor did they care. They first went to Iceland, and then Eric, the Red planted a colony on Greenland, in about the tenth century. A few of these visited the New England States, but left very few marks. They had no compass. One thousand two, a man from Greenland by the name of Kavlsefin fitted out an expedition to found a settlement at Vinland, some where in the New England States near the coast. They brought cattle with them. They were all open boats about fifty to seventy-five feet long.

They got along for a time with the natives, but one day one of the bulls go out and scared the natives or Indians and it finally ended up by the Greenlanders being driven out of the country. This is the first time in history that cattle were brought to America.

But now back to Columbus: He appealed to King John of Portugal. They promptly stole his plans and the few maps he had and sailed west from Cape Verde Island, but only sailed a few days and returned and gave up the trip Then he went to the court of Spain, the King claimed he was broke, which was the truth as all Kings of that date did not have a nickle.
I suppose Chris had a good line and some sex appeal, anyway Queen Isabella fell for it and pawned her jewels valued at 14,000 florens or about $7,000 in our money. Chris was to get one tenth of the gold, silver or any other valuable goods that he could get his hands on that was not nailed down.
Chris fitted out three ships, one hundred and twenty convicts who were promised their liberty, to man the boats. They were the Nina, Pinta and the Santa Maria She was ninety feet long, covered or had a deck and four masts. The other two were open boats and much shorter.

They left Palus, Spain August 3, 1492, stopped at the islands for a few day then proceeded due west. He had a hard boiled crew and of course very superstitious and ignorant, they caused plenty of trouble on the way over and mutinied several times. They endured all kinds of hardships. For several days before landing they began to see gulls and little birds. This little gray bird, about the size of our sparrow is what they call Mother Cary's chickens; I have seen them miles from land, when they get tired they light on a bunch of floating sea weed or sometimes on the deck of the ship. This is where the crew gets busy and shuts up the cat that usually hangs around the crews quarters. The sailors do all they can to protect the birds as it is good luck to have them on board the ship, and it is ill luck to harm them.

At last the look out on the Pinta saw a light, eleven P. M. Oct. 11th. The next morning October 12, 1942 they came to the island of San Salvador, now called Watlings Island. They found the island inhabited by a strange people, small and brown and wearing no clothes. Chris thought this was India, this is where we get the name of Indian. He promptly raised the flag of Spain and the cross and claimed the whole works in the name of the King and Queen of Spain. Then he sailed south to the northern coast of Cuba and discovered tobacco, this is the first in our history.
He was looking for gold, he took on board several natives and headed east and when he reached the Isle of Hayti, the Santa Maria was wrecked on a sand bar. I want to say something about this place, I have been there several times and it is what they call the Black Republic, and they certainly are black.

These people are descendants of the African slaves brought from Africa in 1562 by John Hawkins. They were brought over to work on the plantations.
A great many years ago the island belonged to France, at the time of the Revolution in France 1789, these blacks raised up and threw the French out.
The most peculiar thing about this island is on the western side there is a stretch of land running ninety miles due east and west. In the morning and until noon, the wind blows from the east and from noon until night the wind blows from the west.

The natives from Port au Prince get into their sail boats, sail out along the coast to work on their plantations. In the afternoon they put up their sails and sail back to Port au Prince loaded with the finest fruits, melons, aligator pears or avocadoes, mangoes and all of the other tropical fruits.

After the wreck of the Santa Maria, Chris decided to leave forty men in Haiti and take the Nina back to Spain. The Pinta had deserted him. His second trip, he took seventeen ships, landed at Porto Rico 1498. He left on his third trip and landed at the mouth of the Orinoco River, this is the first discovery of the main land except the Norsemen. The crew mutinied and sent Chris back in chains. The Queen of Spain set him free, he made a fourth trip but returned a poor and broken hearted man. It cost Spain a great deal of money; Chris got three hundred dollars out of it, Spain got nearly all of Central and South America and half of what is now the United States.

At the time Chris landed at San Salvador, all of these islands were covered by dense forests and a great deal larger than they are now and were inhabited by a small brown Indian called a Carrib, they wore no clothes, but now these islands are practically barren. They have been swept clean by the tropical hurricanes, only small shrubs are left. The only inhabitants are light house keepers and a few West Indian fishermen

Now we are on a modern steam ship, we will call it English as they are the most careful sailors of all. When we get right opposite the lighthouse at Watlings Island, we set the bow of the ship due north for Embrose light ship, just outside of New York. The Quartermaster, the officer at the wheel, cuts in his automatic steering gear, it would surprise you to see how close they come to their mark. Regardless of weather conditions or ocean currents.
In front of this officer is the large master compass, at his right is two smaller ones to check the larger one. Sometimes you will be sitting on the shady side of the boat, all at once you will find the boat is turning around and you are in the sun. The compasses dont check and he is turning the ship around out in the open sea to check on his master compass. In front of him, up over the compass is a board containing a small light and numbered for every room and compartment on the ship; in case of fire in any of these compartments, the little light will turn red indicating where the fire is, he has a speaking tube in front of him, also a dial phone to all parts of the ship and all members of the crew are drilled in fire fighting. He calls out the crew next to the fire, all passengers are compelled to have fire drill every second day and you are instructed as to the life boat you are to go to and you are shown how to put on your life preserver and if you are on an English ship you had better dam well be johnny-on-the-spot when the whistle blows for fire. All other boats are not so strict. This boat is 600 feet long and has seven decks, see Rena Del Pacifico, probably two passenger and six freight elevators and on the bridge you are seventy-five feet from the water.
Now we are going into a port that is much too shallow for this ship to go up to the dock on account of her size, we will have to feel our way in.

The deepest part in the ocean to the highest point of land is 11½ miles. Down on the outer bottom of the ship, all modern ships have two bottoms, is a little hammer hitting the steel plates of the outer bottom. The echo of this noise to the bottom and return is electrically recorded on a little tape that comes up on a little table next to the quartermaster, but they do not depend on this. The first officer who is always at the bow of the ship, on entering or leaving a port orders two men to get out the lead lines; on either side of the ship is a little platform extending out over the side of the ship for this man to stand on. He coils up his rope which is one half inch and strong, on one end is a piece of lead weighing about ten pounds and on this line are different colored marks denoting the number of fathoms, six foot to the fathom.
He gets the line to swinging and lets go forward and takes up the slack as the ship moves in and when the line is straight up and down, he looks at the mark, and hollers up to the quartermaster the number of fathoms, watch the tape and they will check within a foot.

When part of the crew is on duty it is called a watch, there are seven in all; four P.M. to six P.M. is called the first dog watch, six to eight is the second dog watch. On nearly all ships there is one certain man that winds all the clocks at the same time every day, no other man handles them.

There is one man on board called the equalizing clerk, it is his duty to know the weight of everything on board and its position on the boat, such as water, fuel oil, coal and all supplies; as they take on cargo he tells them where to put it, in other words, when this ship pulls out to sea, her bow will be two feet higher than the stern and she will be on an even keel.

If this ship has two or three stacks and burning oil, only one is used, the others are for looks and to store supplies in.

When you go into the dining room dont try to make people believe you know all that is on the menu, for it is sometimes in six different languages and you will be lucky to know your English.
Just tell the waiter what you want and like and he or she will pick it out for you. If you are on an English ship, dont ask for coffee as you might get shot, they all drink the blooming tea, but all other boats have coffee and usually black and the stronger the better.
The idea of getting the English to drink tea was and is because the wealthy had their money invested in the tea business the same as the Frenchman and Italian are taught to drink wine. The money of the wealthy is invested in vineyards.

The ship comes out of salt water and entering fresh water will settle down eighteen inches; the fresh water will kill the barnacles on the ships bottom. All ships should go into dry dock every two years to have their bottoms scraped and painted.
All commercial ships carry ballast, it is either water, sand or cargo.
When the sea is rough she will pump her tanks full of water and when it is smooth she will pump them out. This ship ~~has~~ is twenty thousand tons displacement; that is the water she displaces will weigh twenty thousand tons. Her capacity is the same tonnage, that is she will carry that much freight. All light freight is measured one hundred cubic feet to the ton.

The flag at her stern is her nationality, the one at her bow is the flag of the country whose port she is entering and the yellow flag in the center is

calling for the quarantine officer and it stays there until he leaves.

At noon they take their bearings to find out where they are, miles traveled etc. They blow the whistle at noon. The chief engineer goes to the bridge, he figures his distance by the number of revolutions made by his engines in the last twenty-four hours. As the ship leaves port, the officer at the stern sees to it that a little instrument, called a water log is thrown over the stern, it is attached to the ship by a rope it travels along behind and its revolutions are recorded and that is taken up on the bridge where the captain gets his latitude and longitude by his sextant and quadrant. These three are compared, the first two allowing for the amount of water the ship is drawing for currents, wind etc. and they check pretty close.

This ship has four propellers or screws measuring from seventeen to twenty-two feet in diameter, the shaft is fourteen inches in diameter.

The English, the world over are known as lime juicers. Captain Cook discovered the anti-scorbutic value of limes to prevent scurvy caused by going without fresh vegetables.
He discovered a great many of the Couth Pacific Islands 1728-1779. He was killed in Hawaii.
The lime is a small fruit like the lemon only smaller and grows in the tropics on trees about like our sour cherry tree.

This ship has three classes of passengers; the third class or steerage is on the main deck below the first and second class passengers. They are made up of the very rude people called "the rabble". The second class is at the back end of the ship on the same deck as the first class, which is forward. Between these different classes are signs reading, "Keep Out". The first class as a rule are the exploiters of labor, never did work and never will, they even have help to cut their coupons.

In 1510 Balboa established a colony on the north side of Derien, Panama. Then he moved over to the south side and established a colony called Maria Del Antigue, this was the first colony established on the western hemisphere and in their charter lawyers were barred for the first fifty years. They certainly knew their lawyers at that early date.
Balboa did not stay there, he moved south and got in with an Indian Chief by the name of Coreta, he also took the Chief's daughter.
It was thought that this Chief knew of the Pacific.
After Balboa took part of his force to Coreta, the Indians destroyed the town of Maria Del Antigue, and when I was there in 1925, you could still see where the foundations of the church and jail had been. Balboa took a great many of Coreta's men to fight his way through the jungle, he crossed over and discovered the Pacific in Sept. 26, 1513. He promptly raised the flag and cross and claimed the whole Pacific Ocean in the name of the King and Queen of Spain. Balboa was framed, false charges were preferred against him, he was court-martialed, his head was cut off 1517. He was only forty-two years old.

The English discovered the central part of the United States except New York and that was bought from the Indians by the Dutch for twenty-four dollars. About the first English settlement was made at Jamestown on the James River 1607 by Captain John Smith. Several attempts were made before this in this vicinity but John was the only one that made it stick for a while. He brought over a ship load of people, there were four carpenters, six masons and black smiths, the balance were lazy rum hounds called English gentlemen.

Half of them starved to death rather than work, a few were saved by getting corn from the Indians.

At one time Captain Smith was taken by the Indians and condemned to die, so the story goes, his head was placed on a rock, the killer had his axe in the air ready to strike when Pocahontas, the youngest daughter of Chief Powhatan grabbed John around the neck and pleaded with her father to save his life, which he did.

Pocahontas was only twelve years old and her right name was Matcakas, In 1612 she was kidnapped by Captain Argil, held for ransom from her father, but he could not pay. From her picture she was the glamour girl of Jamestown and she certainly had what it takes.

A very prosperous farmer by the name of John Rolfe fell in love with her, but before he would marry her she had to be baptized as a Christian in the Church of England. Imagine this clean little Indian girl had to become a Christian in order to marry.
Rolfe took her to England, she met John Smith on the street, he wanted to forget her, but she called his hand calling attention to the time she saved his life so he presented her to the court and she was given the name of Lady Rebecca. She gave birth to a boy while in England, when she was about ready to return to her home she died, Rolfe brought the boy to America and it seems that seventy-five percent of the people of Virginia are descendants of this boy. Mrs. Parshall Rightmire has a book proving her relationship. My father served on a warship named after the Chief Powahatan during the Civil War.

A great deal of trouble was had keeping men in the colony. In 1620 they sent over from England, ninety girls, the record reads pretty and uncorrupt. You will have to unscramble this one yourself. Sixty more the next year, they were sold for one hundred and fifty pounds of tobacco, that is about ninety bucks at the present rate of exchange, but that is far cheaper than the present price of fifty per month for the duration.

After World War I, the English did the same thing only streamlined theirs a little. Thousands were hired in England and Scotland and sent through the Panama Canal to Australia and New Zealand, and if they were not to hard to look at they got married before they got off the dock at their destination. Of course hard stories were told about them. At that time your Grandmother Min was in the states and I was back in circulation and saw thousands of them and checked them pretty close and I am not only happy but proud to say that a cleaner bunch of young women never walked the streets. I did not see one drunk, hear one swearing, smoking or using any language unbecoming to a lady, and, bear in mind, they are the mothers of the New Zealand soldiers that are dying by the thousands at Cassino, Italy

In the year 1620, a Dutch vessel brought twenty slaves from Africa, tobacco was given as money, this is the first of black slavery in America.

A Captain Law took some tobacco to England in 1607, Sir Walter Raleigh, who was a boy friend of the Queen introduced it into the English Court. An officer that had served under the Duke of Marlborough was appointed at 12,000 pounds a year, this guy had some pull or a good looking wife. There is nothing left at Jamestown only part of the old church and a few tomb stones in the cemetery.

Now we will drop back a little in history, around 1520 King Henry the VIII of England, who knew his way around with the women of that date, had a wife who would not or could not bear a male child to the throne of England, King Henry wanted to divorce her and marry a girl friend by the name of Ann Boleyn, but the Pope of Rome did not grant him a divorce, so he broke with the Roman Church and established a church of England with himself at the head.

He promptly divorced his wife Kate and married Ann, she did not produce the boy and he had her beheaded. His record stands eight wives, seven divorced or beheaded, but our court records show he was only a piker to the ones we have today only ours go by the way of the alimony route, they forgot to send over the ax.

In England at this time were a certain element of people that claimed that the Church of England ought to be purified and God knows it certainly needed it. These people were called Puritans, they were thrown in jail and were persecuted in various ways. Their leader was John Robison, they were driven out of England and went to Holland, but as their children grew up in Holland, they began to speak the Dutch language. This would never do for an Englishman to speak Dutch so the remaining ones in England obtained a charter for a tract of land in New York. They left Holland on the ship Speedwell, she was only sixty tons and proved unseaworthy and they arrived at South Hampton and transferred to the Mayflower. What they wanted was a country and home where they could worship God as their conscience told them was right. They did not get this privilege in England. Leyden was their headquarters in Holland. They left England on the Mayflower September 16, 1620. It took them two months to cross, they headed for the mouth of the Hudson River, the Dutch were already there and did not want the Puritans. The Captain of the Mayflower was a Dutch pirate and claimed he did not know the harbor and could not get a pilot, he headed north and wound up at Cape Cod, near the present site of Truro. This was Saturday, the next day they held service as was their custom but while on board they entered into a compact. In a way it was the beginning of our Democratic government.

These are the cardinal principles of the Puritans - Faith, morality, law, education. We still have the four cardinal principles called the Four Freedoms. Freedom from want, fear, religious freedom and freedom of speech.
See how far both parties have strayed from the truth. The Puritans were sincere in their beliefs at the time of their landing, but went haywire afterwards. They wanted freedom of worship and freedom to vote as they saw fit, but at the first meeting they ruled out the vote that did not belong to their particular church, they wanted the church and state to be one. This is the one thing they left England for. Roger Williams claimed that the system was wrong, he claimed that no man should be compelled to pay taxes to support any church. The Puritans drove him out of the colony, he was a minister and he told the Puritans they had stolen the land from the Indians, which they did. The English had no right to grant a charter on other peoples land, but the English are still at it. At Munich, Oct. 1, 1938, Prime Minister Chamberlain gave Germany part of Czechoslovakia and it was o k'd by the Americans, but be that as it may, Rogers wound up in Providence, R. I. and established the town.

If you were on an island all alone you would not need any law, but when another person came to the island to live, you would want an understanding called law and the more populated the island became the more complicated the laws and the more our liberty would be restricted. We cannot live together without it. The same law that protects the nose on the other fellows face also protects yours. Now the object of law is to protect the weak and curb the vicious, but law as it is today is for them that have, and disgrace, poverty, ignorance, superstition and the hausegow for them that have not. This is a long way from either of the four freedoms or cardinal principles.

When the Mayflower left England, they had on board one hundred two people, the occupations of the Mayflower passengers included the following: merchant, steward-servant, servant-man, servant boy, lady's maid, bound-boy, printer and publisher, physician, jailer, tradesman, wool carder, farmer, lay-reader, silk worker, husbandman, carpenter, cooper, seaman. Some were at sometime teachers,

account-

ants, linguists, writers etc. and some had formerly practiced handicrafts. One birth and one death on the trip. They came to establish a home. We certainly fell by the way-side somewhere, see what we have to day. Seven states out of the forty-eight competing for more liberal divorce laws to break up the homes, nineteen in our county seat in one month, well the lawyers have to live, but this is just another old English custom we brought over.Everything but King Henry's axe.

This is where you hear from Miles Standish, he was not a member of the Puritan church and of course did not vote. How he became a member of this outfit, I dont know, but he was elected Captain of about twenty men.
Now get this word elected to explore the surrounding country, and it was Miles who picked out the place; they had some trouble finding it but after a storm about wrecked their vessel, they landed at a place called Plymouth, Dec. 21, 1620. There were nineteen families, they proceeded to cut down the forests and build log houses, they also built a store house 20 by 20.

They did not possess a great deal of common sense or they never would have started for America in the late fall. Due to the late arrival it was hard for them to get provisions and nearly half of them died the first winter through cold and hunger.
Due to an epidemic among the Indians, a great many of them died off and very few were left in the country. Even after the deaths and hardships the remaining few had no idea of returning to England as all the other first colonists had. Regardless of the abuses heaped upon them by the Church of England and the Roman Church, they had the guts to stick it out.

They lived a long time on Salt Cod, it was known in them days as Cape Cod Turkey. They caught the fish, cured them, sent them back to England to pay their debts

They started what was called the New England Town meeting, all people would be called to a meeting, all questions would be discussed and settled. In 1621 they had a good crop, but the next year they had a long drought and it killed all their crops. Their record claims they prayed for nine hours straight then it rained good and hard.

Miles Standish came back at this time with a good supply of provisions. This was July 30, 1622 and this day was set aside by Governor Bradford as a day of thanksgiving, This is the first in our country. It has been changed several times, it can be set by the governors of the different states but it is usually fixed by the President of the United States.

The country at that time, was full of wild turkey and this is why we always have turkey at Thanksgiving, if we have the money to buy it. The woods were also full of deer and bear and squirrels and the ponds were full of fish, wild geese and ducks.

At the foot of Cole's hill, there was a large rock of gray sand stone, they called it Plymouth Rock. It weighed seven ton and it was used by the people getting off the Mayflower; inlater years the people thought they would move it to the top of the hill where they were raising a flag pole, they hooked twenty teams of oxen on it, but it split in two, they took part of it any way. Later they moved both pieces and put them together under a canopy in front of Pilgrim's Hall at Plymouth. They have a society of Mayflower descendents in about twenty different states with a dues paying membership of 3,000.

Now this is where you kids get hot in this picture, and it has been my object to show you your back ground; you are a direct descendant of Richard

Warren, who came over in this boat, and was one of the forty-nine that signed the four cardinal principals.
You may be proud of this or you may be ashamed of it, but it is my opinion that you dont give a hoot, but read about the old, old settlers, it wont poison your brain.

Ephraim Elsbree, the first of this name to come to America was born 1700, died at Freetown, Mass., now Fall River, having lived at that place the last twenty years before his death. There dont seem to be any record of the place where he was born or just when he came to this country.
He married in 1726 Mary Boomer, daughter of Matthew and Hanna Church Boomer. This Hanna Boomer was the great granddaughter of Richard Warren, one of the 102 who came over on the Mayflower.
John F. Elsbree of Boston, has traced her ancestry back to the fifteenth century.

Ephraim and Mary's children are Ephraim, David, John, Thomas, Matthew, Rebecca, Joeb, Johnathon, william and Mary.
Thomas was a Captain in the Revolution and also William.

Now your great, great, great, great grandfather married Mary Martin and their children were: Joseph, Martin, Manson, Ruth, John, Susan, Ira and Nancy This Joseph, your great, great grandfather was born July 5th, 1790 and died Feb. 19th, 1856, Mary Makey, his wife, daughter of William Makey and Betsy Cass, died July 14, 1877. This William was also an officer in the Revolution. Joe and Mary are buried in the cemetery near West Warren, on your left up the hill from the road going to West Warren. See my album for pictures of the tomb stones. Also the Makeys. This Joe Elsbree, buried at West Warren was your great, great grandfather, Manson Elsbree's father.

Now your family record:

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Joseph Elsbree - - - - - - - | born | July 15, 1790 | |
| Mary Elsbree- - - - - - - | " " | Jan. 20, 1793 | |
| Hiram Knapp - - - - - - - - | " " | Feb. 19, 1802 | died Oct. 16, 1868 |
| Elizabeth K. Knapp- - - - | " " | May 28, 1806 | |
| Martha K. Knapp - - - - - | " " | Jan. 23, 1828 | |
| Therisa Knapp - - - - - | " " | Aug. 23, 1831 | |
| Alsuitha Knapp - - - - - | " " | May 6, 1833 | |
| Hiram Knapp - - - - - - - | " " | Nov. 11, 1836 | |
| Elizabeth Knapp - - - - - | " " | July 8, 1839 | |
| Armeina Knapp - - - - - - | " " | Mar. 20, 1841 | |
| Archiluz Knapp- - - - - - | " " | Mar. 8, 1845 | |
| Capelli Knapp - - - - - - | " " | May 6, 1845 | |
| Josephine Knapp - - - - - | " " | Dec. 8, 1849 | |
| Melangthon Knapp- - - - - | " " | June 29, 1841 | |
| Manson Elsbree - - - - - | " " | Nov. 12, 1829 | died April 8, 1908 |
| Therisa Elsbree - - - - - | " " | Aug. 23, 1832 | " " Mar. 18 |
| Joseph M. Elsbree - - - - | " " | Oct. 2, 1854 | " " Dec. 16, 1879 |
| Fred Page Elsbree - - - - | " " | Oct. 3, 1869 | " " Mar. 18, 1916 |
| Martha M. Elsbree - - - - | " " | Jan. 30, 1871 | |
| Katrina Enevoldsen- - - - | " " | Mar. 20, 1876 | |
| Joseph M. Elsbree - - - - | " " | Aug. 29, 1897 | " " Apr. 3, 1939 |
| Fred P. Elsbree Jr. - - - | " " | Feb. 13, 1899 | |
| Inza Markham - - - - - - - - | " " | May 31, 1904 | |
| Fred W. Elsbree- - - - - - | " " | June 28, 1930 | |

Joseph N. Elsbree - - - - - - -born Oct. 21, 1931
James Robert Elsbree - - - - - - " " Dec. 1, 1936
Richard Manson Elsbree - - - - " " Jan. 4, 1940

Hiram Knapp and Elizabeth K. Estabrook - - - Married Dec. 28, 1826
Nathan C. Elsbree and Martha K. Knapp - - - " " Aug. 16, 1849
Manson Elsbree and Therisa Knapp - - - " " Jan. 22, 1852
Fred Elsbree and Katrina Enevoldsen - - - " " Jan. 30, 1897
Joseph M. Elsbree and Blanche L. Luther - - " " Aug. 29, 1929
Fred P. Elsbree and Inza Markham - - - " " Aug. 29, 1929

My mother's side of the house

Grandfather

Henry VanGlone, born - - - Hanover, Prussia, May 23, 1792
died - - - March 29, 1854 buried at Jenksville, N.Y.

Grandmother

Betsy or Elesebth Legg - - - born Oct. 24, 1812 on farm near Berkshire
died Oct. 9, 1881, buried at Jenksville, N.Y.

Henry VanGlone and Betsy Legg, married July 16, 1834
Margaret Hannah VanGlone, born January 23, 1835 at Candor Twp.
Schuyler Henry VanGlone, born April 27, 1837, died June 23, 1915
Michael Stillman VanGlone, born May 29, 1838, died September 5, 1920
Martha VanGlone, born June 8, 1840, died January 18, 1841
Arnold VanGlone, born June 8, 1840, died June 23, 1840
Clarica VanGlone, born June 19, 1842
James Polk VanGlone, born October 24, 1844, died September 23, 1847
George McDallas VanGlone, born April 9, 1841, died September 23, 1847
James Markham and Clarica VanGlone, married Aug. 18, 1866
James Markham Sr., born at Toro Point, Cornwald, England, April 2, 1832
Abraham VanGlone and Sarah E. Allen, married August 27, 1882
Anna Louise VanGlone, born July 7, 1894, married to George Liddington, Jul.3,1911
The Legg family came from Mendon, Wouster County, Mass.
Schuyler Legg, born Sept. 18, 1783, died Dec. 14, 1872, married January 26, to
Hannah Osborn, born Oct. 1, 1786, died October 11, 1830.
Martha "Patty" Legg, born Jan. 14, 1810, married Arnold Blanchard 1828, 10 children
Betsy Legg, born Oct. 24, 1812, married Henry VanGlone, July 16, 1834, 9 children
Orpha Legg, born Nov. 6, 1814, married Horace Howe, April 10, 1834, 2 children
Sally Legg, born October 20, 1816, died February 13, 1901
Mary Legg, born June 23, 1818, married Joseph Borthwick, no children
Experience Legg, born August 9, 1820, died March 24, 1868
David Johnson Legg, born April 16, 1822, married Jane Wiltse 1849, 2 children
Elnathan Legg, born May 10, 1824, died October 27, 1832
G. Layton Legg, born Aug. 3, 1826, married Phoebe Ann Anson, 1863, no children
Stillman G. Legg, born Aug. 14, 1828, married Elizabeth Hammond 1857, 3 children
married Elizabeth C. Lee, no children
My grandfather's name was William, grandmother's name was Mary. My uncle's name wa John Markham, he went down with his ship off Cape Hatteras, also I had an Aunt Mary. There are no other records. My father's birth cetificate is in my box, he was baptized in the Church of England, July 15, 1832.
Went to school at the Grenwich Naval School, went to sea at the age of twelve, served with the British Navy in the Crimean War, he was stationed at St. Helena, Gulf of Giene for a number of years, hunting slave traders; enlisted in the

United States Navy Nov. 15, 1860, served until Oct. 31, 1863 on the U. S. S. North Carolina, Pocahontas, Cumberland and Powhatan, enlisted as an able seaman, promoted to Captain of hold, served with Matt McGuffee and through him he came to this section and became acquainted with Matt's brother Jack McGuffee who ran the way lock and other projects connected with the canal.
My father worked for Jack a short time then took over the store, mule barn, plaster and coal business until the close of the canal 1889. He then worked for the railroad taking out the locks and bridges, then as a construction foreman on the railroad until he had to quit work. You will find some of his old passes in my album. He was a member of the Ruler Amity Lodge No. 70 of Masons at Athens for a number of years.

You will find in my box a letter written to Matt McGuffee by his brother Jack and my father July 25, 1864, Matt was on board the U. S. S. Chicopee. This letter was given to me by Mrs. Davenport, Matt McGuffee's daughter.

During the Civil War, when they caught a blockade runner. their crew got a prize according to their rank, they caught a ship from England loaded with railroad rails, my father's share was $320.

In looking through one of his note books, I find that the Athens Township School Board of which he was a member, held a meeting in Sayre, Nov. 7, 1874 to accept the new school house built jointly by the township and Mr. Howard Elmer. The township put in $1,000, Mr. Elmer $1,500. They voted to keep the old school house known as Pine Plain School #2. It stood where Mr. Rice's store is now. Nov. 25, 1874 put in a new floor, door and seats in Scott's school #4 Dec. 10 1874, let the building of the school house at Glen Valley $470, lowest bidder. Also let contracts for building privy, lowest bidder $28.25, planted early lose potatoes May 15, 1874, medical attention by Dr. E. Johnson, for birth of Matthew Markham $4.00. Paid Tine Bell $200 for three-quarters of an acre of land, this is just in front of our old home.

When father and mother were married they started keeping house in this building that stood on this lot near the road, then moved up over the store near the canal. The first building was torn down.

The Legg family left the Connecticut Valley 1798, came over the Hudson on a raft, proceeded west until they hit the Susquehanna River, then down as far as Owego, then twelve miles up the creek to Legg Hill. The Indians were still in the country. They were the first to start a clearing. Mother was born in a log house three miles west of Speedsville, N. Y. on what is known as Legg Hill. It stood down in the hollow near a spring, twenty rods from the present house that stands near the road. See pictures of house, well and old oaken bucket. She lived with Albert Tozer when she met father and it is her side of the house that took part in the Revolution. The ox shoe in my cabinet is from my grandfather's ox, the bird's eye maple snuff box was grandmothers.

James Markham Sr. born April 2, 1832, died Feb. 12, 1912, married Aug. 16, 1866
Clarissa Markham, born June 18, 1842, died July 31, 1885
Nellie Markham, born April 3, 1869, married to W.B.Wilcox April 26, 1893
married to Hugh Beers June 22, 1926, died Jan. 1, 1935
William Markham, born Feb. 16, 1876, married Minnie I. Barnes May 6, 1903.
Matthew Markham, born June 26, 1872, died March 10, 1905
James Markham Jr. born June 16, 1881 to Josephine Cockran, Feb.29, 1916.

From the time of Columbus to the ending of the Revolutionary War, discoveries were made in the south by the Spanish and a few French, in the north by the French and in the center of North America by the English and a few Dutch, near New York. The settlements through our section were made by the English. In our section it was just one fight after another among the English and the Indians, the French and the Indians and the French and the English, the Indians fighting on both sides. The Indians fought with the English against the colonies during the Revolution.

This little town of Athens is perhaps the most historical spot in the United States. We have great places in history, but none compared with Tioga Point; we have Jamestown, Yorktown, Gettysburg and several others, but their history lasted only for a few days. Tioga Point was a battle ground for the Indians as far back as they as they were known as Indians.
The southern boundary was the Susquehanna River for the Six Great Nations of the north, the Delawares and the other nations to the south.
The Susquehanna River leads off to the north east and rises in Otsego Lake, N. Y. The Chemung comes from the north west, rising about six miles due west of Troy, Pa., it flows north to Corning N. Y. and it is called the Tioga River. General Sullivan had his headquarters here, 1779 and at Lowman, N. Y. fought one of the decisive battles of the Revolutionary War with the Indians. If this place was in California, they would fill books with bally-hoo to attract the tourists.

Let me try and explain the Connecticut land grant, and the Susquehanna purchase, that you may be able to understand it, it will take a round about way to explain it but it wont do you any harm to check this up.

This old world is round or nearly so, it is 8000 miles down through and is 25,000 miles around it and through the center of it is a pole and at the ends of this pole is what they call the axis that the earth revolves on, it makes one revolution every twenty-four hours west to east and it takes 365 days to move around the sun where it derives its heat from, between these two poles is an imaginary line called the equator, the lines running parallel with this are called parallels, the lines running from the equator to either the north or south poles are called meridians; the earth is divided into 360 equal parts called degrees, they have a prime meridian located at Greenwich, England where all longitude is reckoned and all sailors use it except the French and their prime meridian is located in Paris; where the prime meridian crosses the equator there is no longitude or latitude.

Starting at the prime Meridian you go east 180 degrees and west longitude 180 degrees from the equator, north 90 degrees latitude and 90 degrees latitude to the south pole.

The equator is 6225 miles from the pole, a nautical mile, called a knot is 6080 feet, your land mile or statute mile is 5280 feet used on land, the distance is figured on time, 15 degrees is one hour of time, there are 60 minutes in an hour which represents distance, then the minute has sixty seconds which represents distance also. Suppose a ship at sea has an accident, we will say she caught on fire and had to have help, the wireless man would send out the S.O.S. stating his position, she is 40 degrees 20 minutes 45 seconds north latitude, then she is 40 degrees 30 minutes 20 seconds west longitude, this is north east of New York. All first class ships have a wireless man on duty at all times, listening for calls and any other information that they might be interested in, he receives this call and informs the Captain whose quarters are just behind him, the Captain gives the orders to state his position, he looks at the large map near the quartermaster, he locates this vessel and finds she is in an ocean current, carrying her 6 knots per hour, he figures the time that

it will take his ship to get there and the position of the burning ship at that particular time; he gives orders for full speed ahead, the quartermaster moves a little dial to fuul speed in the . direction of the position that that ship will be in, when he moves this dial it registers on a tape which is turned into his head office, upon his arrival; it also rings a bell in the engine room and also the same order that it does on the bridge dial, this move is also registered on the log book which is kept by the quartermaster or the man at the wheel. He records the sighting of ships and all other information such as winds, storm time positions etc. the engineer then hooks her up inhis language, in other words they put on all the power they have got and when he does, the vibration of the ship will jar the plates off the table and almost knock your hat off, in cruising spped there is no vibration.

Let me explain the economical speed, a ships cruising speed, we will say is 20 knots, she can make that speed cheaper, cover the same distance,that she could making 15 knots, which is a drag on her engines, or 25 knots which is lost power.

When we were in California in 1941, they had a test run of 800 miles for eight different makes of cars; this 1941 Ford of ours won out, making 23¼ miles per gallon of gas, of course it was the best of roads and best of gas and an engineer from the factory operated it and her economical speed is 40 miles per hour, so if you see me going by the house making less than 40 you will know something is dragging, if I am making more than that by the farm you will know that I have more gas than brains.

Now I have given you a picture of the Connecticut land grant and the Susquehanna Land Company, now let me see if I can give you an overall picture of the land controversy that took place along the Susquehanna River, more particularly at Wyoming. The Six Nations claimed all this land, due to the fact that they had conquered the Delaware and Susquehanna Indians who owned and controlled it at one time, and was then under the jurisdiction of the Six Nations, this is where the monkey wrench was thrown into the machinery.

Nov. 3, 1620, the King of England incorporated the great Plymouth council which included all the land from the 40th to the 48th degree of latitude, the eastern boundary was the South Sea, at that time the limey did not know a great deal about the Pacific Ocean, but they took a chance and called it the South Sea.

In 1628, the Massachusetts colony was carved out of the Plymouth Patent a and March 9,1631 the Connecticut Charter was granted, the northern boundary was the Massachusetts Colony, the eastern boundary was the Atlantic Ocean, the western was the South Sea. In other words the Connecticut grant from the crown was from sea to sea, except the Dutch claim what is now the city of New York and up the Hudson River as far as what is now Albany. The English did not fully recognize it any more than they ever recognized any other treaty since then. In 1664 the King transferred all the Dutch claim to the Duke of York, called His Royal Highness, this cut the colony of Connecticut off from the Connecticut land grant in what is now Pennsylvania.
The boundary of Connecticut was fixed by the English Commissions, where it is at the present time, the Dutch claims were turned over to what is now the State of New York.

1681 the same King of England granted to the Penn family a land grant of which the northern boundary was the 42nd parallel, over lapping the Connecticut grant 1 degree or 69 statute miles, this was to pay off the debt of 15,000 pounds owed to the Penn family, they claimed it was a mistake on the

part of the King, but it was not, as long as this race of people have been known as English, that is the ruling families, it has been their policy to divide and conquer; I will defy any person to point to one foot of land that they ever paid for, that is to the ones that really owned it, or for one foot of land that is not drenched with native blood; this applies to the French and Spanish as well or any liberty enjoyed by their colonies that was not fought for.

July 18, 1753 a meeting was held at Windsor, Conn. and the Susquehanna land company was incorporated, now this is what the Susquehanna Company received - start here at Waverly which is on the 42nd degree of latitude, go due south one degree or 69 statute miles, then ten miles east of the Susquehanna River on the 41st degree, then go north keeping ten miles east of the river until you arrive at the 42nd parallel then two degrees west on the 42nd, which is 120 miles at that latitude, then due south to the 41st, then due east on the 41st across the river to the starting point.

The above is one authority, others have it that the starting point was ten miles east of the Susquehanna on the 41st parallel then due north to the 42nd instead of keeping ten miles east of the river all the way up; take your choice. They sent men to explore the Susquehanna River Valley.
Now remember, this land was granted to the Pennsylvania people twenty years after it was granted to the Connecticut and remember, when the Connecticut land grant was given, this whole country was supposed to be under the jurisdiction of the state of Connecticut, but the crooked work of the Duke of York cut it in two; the Pennsylvania settlers were Swedes, Germans and northern Irish who came to Pennsylvania to enjoy the religious liberty established by William Penn, the Quaker.

The people from Connecticut as a rule were English and were called Connecticut Yankees, this name was given them on account of their shrewdness in trading, they had a touch of Scotch blood in them. During the Civil War the people north of the Mason Dixon Line were nicknamed the Yankees, regardless of race or color and this name still sticks in the minds of the older people in the south to day.

The Susquehanna Company purchased the land from the Six Nations, who claimed it; they paid 2,000 pounds, a pound at that time was worth about $2.50. They paid it to sixteen chiefs, the money was all thrown into a blanket and was taken out under a tree and the Indian Chiefs divided it, this was 1792.

Now the Pennsylvania people claimed they had bought the same land from the same Indians in 1736, and the fight was on. The first thing they should have done was to have shot the Pennsylvania and Connecticut land agents. The Connecticut people on one side, the Germans, Swedes and Irish from the southern part of Pennsylvania on the other.

In 1762 the first settler crossed the State of Connecticut, due west from Hartford, then crossed the Hudson River just south of what is now Poughkeepsie, on due west till they hit the small town of Ellenville, then southwest and crossed the Delaware south of Stroudsburg, then due west until they hit Wyoming.
They found several forts in the valley, built six hundred years before the white settlers came, the next year the Indians killed and scalped twenty of them and drove out the balance; some went back to Connecticut.
These acts were encouraged by the Pennsylvania land agents.
Wyoming means The Large Plain, for nine years Wyoming or Westmoreland was under the jurisdiction of Connecticut, paid taxes to that state and sent delegates to their Assembly; for seven years there was Civil War between the

Connecticut Colony and the State of Pennsylvania
Let me see if I can picture one of these early settlers, and this applies to my forefathers from Connecticut, only they came to what is now Owego, then up the creek twelve miles to Legg Hill, they were the first ones there. This also applies to all the old settlers in settling up the United States. He probably was a single man and of course had talked it over with several of the young men and laid their plans like Joe and Bill as I remember, who started west to live in the woods the rest of their lives, they started out at sunset , got as far as the chicken coop, somebody hollered "boo" they dropped everything and made for the house. These people formed a party, bid good bye to their friends and started west, they had arranged with land agent for a certain piece of land near Wyoming; they were not the type reared in luxury, but were from the families used to hard knocks, they had dug out a living among the rocks and gravel of Connecticut, they left their houses, knapsack over their shoulder, gun in hand, the axe strapped to the knapsack, a few seed in their pocket; they followed the beaten trail for a while then broke into the virgin forest; they camped wherever night overtook them, killed a deer or a turkey, they slept in a bed of leaves and at daybreak were up and on their way, crossing creeks, swamps, swimming rivers, over the mountains and down into the valley where they picked out a spot that was to be their future home.

They first built a bark leanto to keep themselves and their powder dry, they lived off the game they could kill and a few berries growing along the creeks, there were plenty of elk in the country in them days, they started chopping down the trees for a clearing, the logs of a certain size they saved for their log house and the balance was burned.

When they had a little clearing made, they planted what few seed they had brought along and when they had logs enough cut they changed work with their neighbors and this was about the only time they had to visit with each other. At night they lay on their bed of hemlock boughs and leaves and dreamed of the home and sweetheart they had left in far away Connecticut, and the future home they had started to build. Out side their shack prowled the bear, wolves, and the dreaded panther, to say nothing of skunks, wolves, possum, coons and wild cats, they smelled the meat that hung in their little bough house and many a time he was compelled to raise up and take aim between the two balls of fire which was the eyes of the panther glaring at him.

By autumn a small patch was cleared, this was planted to wheat and their little log cabin was completed, they put away their axe and what few rude tools they had made, and in company with a few others started on their long journey back to Connecticut, their place of birth and the loved ones they had left behind.

In due time they arrived at the scene of their childhood and to the old home where they were warmly received. The folks were anxious to hear of the new country; in the crowd that had gathered around was one that was more anxious and interested than the rest, it was to be her future home in the faraway wilderness. A wedding soon took place and the last winter in Connecticut and their home was a busy place, preparing for their new home in the west. A great many social affairs were held in their honor, candy pulling, square dances etc. It would be a long time before they would come back to Connecticut. and the great majority of them never did get back. They sat down to the last Thanksgiving dinner and the last Christtmas and New Year's festivities with their parents and former schoolmates and on the approach of spring bade all of their relatives and friends a tearful goodbye and again headed west for their new home in the wilderness followed by the good wishes of their friends and prayers and well wishes of their relatives.

If they were well to do they had two cows used as a pair of oxen and a two wheeled cart, a pair of sheep,in the cart they loaded what little household furniture they could carry and what few clothes they owned.
The main thing was powder and seeds of all kinds. The sheep were to start a flock to produce the wool for their clothing. They had to guard against the wolves at night. The sheep slept under the cart with the man and wife, and in the daytime it would be necessary for the women to drive the oxen while the men guarded the live stock and cleared the road.

At last after days and nights of hardship they reached their little home and clearing that they had left the fall before.
The first thing was to get the seed in the ground, this was done by first going over the ground with a heavy brush, then sowing the seeds then with the brush again. This brush was used as you use the drag today.
The cabin was used for a bed room, dining room, kitchen and workshop, a fireplace was built with the field stones that they had carried from the hills. They built a strong pen and shelter to keep their stock in at night, and it is many a wolf that he has killed from his little window in the cabin facing this pen.
There was no grass, as a rule, for the stock, they used boughs and leaves until their corn was ripe, also the wheat straw through the winter.
In due time you could see the man manufacturing a piece of home made furniture called a cradle and also in due time there appeared a something to put in it.

I can see the picture of the wife planting the bleeding heart which is the oldest domestic flower known, a little tansy, sage, and the peppermint grew along the creek, a little ivy vine which was to cover the side of the cabin.

The first year was their happiest year of their wedded life, as both were in perfect health and as the season went by more settlers came and settled near them and the neighbors were not as far apart as the year before. The social intercourse of these early settlers had none of the bad features which characterized that of later times; each enjoyed with his neighbor in his prosperit y and sympathized with him in his troubles.

The happy life they had started was soon to be wiped out by the Indians who killed several of them, burned their homes and drove the balance from the country, but what was alive came back and were driven out several times by the Indians and the Penna. people.
After they were driven out in 1763 they stayed away until 1769, when upon their return to Wyoming forty of them were arrested but were released on bail. they returned to Wyoming and were arrested a second time and were sent to jail at Easton, but got out again and in the spring were joined by 250 more, they built block houses at different places.
Let me explain what a block house is - it is a regular log house usually 20x30, eight foot high, the second floor extends out five or six feet all around, this is to prevent scaling the wall, sometimes the women would use scalding water kept for that purpose, notches or holes were left in the logs for the rifles to be used; then on top of this was a plank roof, nearly flat so they might cover it with dirt or sod when they expected an attack, this was to prevent the enemy from shooting fire to the roof and stting the blockhouse on fire. A stockade is built by digging a trench three feet deep, standing logs on end allowing them to extend fifteen feet above ground, two tier of logs are used, the second tier blocks the cracks of the outer tier, these stockades might cover an acre and might contain six to ten of these blockhouses. They are usually built over a spring or creek, a platform was built

on the inside, four feet from the top of the wall to enable the men to stand on it and fire over the top. Some such a stockade was built here in Athens by Sullivan when he was here in 1779, it was built where or near where the library is at the present time and commanded both rivers.

In 1769 the Penna. people raised an army, took Capt. Durkee prisoner and drove out the Connecticut settlers along with their women, children and livestock. Some went to the Delaware River and some to Connecticut, but in 1770 the Yankees were right back and took over.
The State of Connecticut was behind the company at that time, they sold 2000 acres for a full share, 1000 for a half share. 1774 the Connecticut people called this section Westmoreland, it was 70 miles square and on this date the Governor of Connecticut issued a proclamation forbidding any settlement within the limits of Westmoreland, except with the consent of the Connecticut authorities, at the same time the Governor of Pennsylvania issued a proclamation forbidding any settlement only on the authority of the Governor of Penn. In 1775 the State of Pennsylvania sent 800 men against the Wyoming settlement, but Congress intervened and not a great deal of blood was shed.

To show you how good the crops were in the valley, corn sold for two shillings per bushel or thirty-four cents, rye for three shillings, wheat for four shillings. Rye and corn were used for making whiskey.

The latter part of 1776 the people of the valley realized that the Indians of the Six Nations were for the English who gave them expensive presents, which included rifles, powder and ball; the Indians had settlements at Tioga Point, Sheshequin, Owego and Elmira or Newtown where a great many of the principal chiefs lived at that time.
The population of Wyoming at that time was about 2500 people all told. A prize of ten pounds was offered to the man who could make the first batch of fifty pounds of saltpeter.

The State of Connecticut forbid any more men leaving the State, on account of the Revolution; they raised two companies of men to protect the settlement, but this was a trick on the part of the Penn. land owners, to get the able-bodied men away from Wyoming.
As soon as they were organized they were ordered to join Washington's army, taking the best guns with them.

1777 they established a post route, Wyoming to Hartford, Conn. a distance of 250 miles; the rider was Prince Bryant, the object was to bring the Conn. papers to the valley.
At the end of 1777 the town voted to supply the widows and children of the soldiers who had died in Washington's army with the necessities of life. 1778 was the most promising since the colony started, except the fear of the Indians of the Six Nations. Smoke was curling from the chimneys of hundreds of little log cabins in the Wyoming Valley, barns or shacks were full of fodder for the livestock, stacks of hay and straw were plentiful around each home; they had plenty of sheep, hogs, cattle and poultry to care for their needs, inside the little home, buckwheat cakes and honey, venison and plenty of smoked shad from the river. Sleigh rides, quilting bees, occasionally a wedding to break the monotony of winter, spinning wheels were working in every home, the summers wood was being hauled to the cabin by oxen and cut to lengths for the fireplace. No more contented settlers could be found anywhere, except the home of the soldiers that were fighting with Washington.

On the 21st of April 1778 they had a meeting to fix the price of goods and labor, this was the first O. P. A. in the United States.
Good yarn stockings, per pair 10 shillings, $1.70
Women labor, operating spinning wheel per week, six shillings, $1.02
Winter fed beef, per pound, 7D or 14 cents
Dinner at the Tavern, the best per meal, 2 shillings, 34 cents
Beaver skins per pound, 18 shillings, $3.06
Shad per one 6 to 10 lbs. 6d, 12 cents
Beaver hats, the very best, 4 lbs. $13.60
The work of two oxen per day of ten hours and tackling or keep, 3 shillings or 51 cents
Good hemp seed, per bushel 15 shillings, $2.55
Mens labor for farm 3 summer months per day, 5 shillings 3d, 91cents
Good check flannel, yard wide, 8 shillings, $1.36
Good tow and lining yard wide, 6 Shillings, $1.02
Good white flannel, 5 shillings, 85 cents
Tobacco in hand, per pound 9d, 18 cents
Tavern for mug of flip with two gills of rum in it, 4 shillings, 68 cents
Making, setting and shoeing one hourse all around, 8 shillings, $1.36
Eggs per dozen, 8d, 16 cents
Strong beer per barrel, 2 lbs. $6.80
The settlers could get no gun powder from the outside, the women dug the earth from under the floors of the cabins, put into casks, let water run through it, then put ashes in another cask, making lye, mix this with the water from the earth, boil then set aside until it cooled and the saltpeter would rise to the top and was skimmed off, charcoal and sulphur were used and they had their own gun powder.

In March they raised a Company of men to protect the settlers, they had warning that the Indians were going to attack the settlers who were short of guns, the first two Companies, 180 men, having taken all the good rifles. The British under Butler got their army together at Athens, consisted of 400, Butlers Rangers and Johnsons Royal Greens, the rest of the whites were Tories from N. Y., Penna., and N. J. and 700 Indians, Senecas, and Mohawks under three Seneca Chiefs, Farmers brother, Corn planter and Governor Black Snake also Queen Esther; they came down the river in boats, landed at Bowmans Creek on the west side of the river about twenty miles above the Valley and walked the balance of the way.

Friday, July 3rd, 1778 the British sent two men and demanded the surrender of all forts in the valley, but the settlers refused, the settlement had 230 men, 70 old men and a few boys.
The forts were scattered all over the valley both sides of the river, Plymouth and Kingston are both on the west side of the river opposite Wilkesbarre. Kingston is where Wyoming Seminary is located, where your Mother attended school. Wyoming is a few miles northeast.
The people decided that their only chance was to go out and fight it out as the British would take one fort at a time until they were all wiped out.
As the settlers attacked, the British fell back drawing the settlers away from the fort, as the settlers advanced the Indians closed in on their rear and annihilated and scalped 160 of them, 140 escaped back to the fort, they tried to rally the settlers and get them together, but part of them had fled to the wilderness. The fort surrendered to the English, then after the damage was done the English withdrew north.

Colonel Hartley was sent against them but he had only two hundred men, he killed a few at Sheshequin and Queen Esther town, the people that had

escaped with their lives began to come back but there was not a house left on the west side of the river.

The Indians continued to give them trouble encouraged by the Pennsylvania land agents. A great many more were killed, a few at a time until General Sullivan made his appearance; this cleaned them up for a time but the murder and plunder did not end until years after.

Now as a matter of record I want to give you an idea of the great number of eels in the river at that time. They set a weir or eelrack and caught 14,000 from Sept. 15th to Dec. 18th, running from one to ten pounds each.

On Dec. 30th, 1782 the Court at Trenton ruled that the State of Penn. had jurisdiction over Wyoming, but the Connecticut settlers claimed that the ruling did not give them the right of soil. They were willing to acknowledge the jurisdiction of Pennsylvania but still clung to their right of the land that they had bought and paid for from the Susquehanna Company.

At Hartford Conn. a meeting was held of the Susquehanna Company, May 17th 1786, they voted to send Col. John Franklin, General Ethan Allen, Major John Jenkins and Colonel Zebulon Butler to Wyoming, to locate townships and look after the interests of the Connecticut people.

This man Allen promised to bring his Green Mountain boys from Vermont to fight for the settlers for a large tract of land on Wyalusing Creek, at a town called Allensburg. This was the year a few settlers began to take up land along the Susquehanna River as far as the state line.

They governed themselves locally, but at the same time acknowledged the authority of Pennsylvania.

All cases except murder and the title to land were settled locally. Murder and land titles were referred to Connecticut, non-property owners could not vote. They fought among themselves for years and it was generally believed that John Seacord, about the first to settle near the Point in 1778 was a Tory. This name is applied to England among the Conservative element and was on the British side during the Revolution.

It was here that Butler planned the attack on Wyoming, it was here that Gen. Timothy Pickering, representing the Federal Government held the council with the Indians in 1790.

1786 the Susquehanna Land Company issued a land grant for the formation of Athens township, a village was laid out by Col Elias Satterlee, Col. John Franklin and Col. John Jenkins.

A year previous, 1785 the State of Pennsylvania granted the same land to a man from Lancaster, Josiah Lockhart, who obtained it through a lottery.

1787 Col. Franklin the Connecticut man was thrown in jail and charged with high treason, he seemed to be the sparkplug of the Connecticut settlers. This Col. John Franklin was born in Canaan, Conn. Sept. 26, 1749, he died in Athens Township Mar. 31, 1831. He was married in Connecticut, took his wife to Wyoming Valley, he left her with friends in Wilkesbarre and took up a claim on Huntington Creek in Luzerne Co., cleared a few acres of land, built a log cabin, then moved his family into this wilderness home, it was eight miles to his nearest neighbor, three children were born to them, and when he saw the trouble that was brewing with the Indians, he took his family to Paxton, then to Windsor, Bucks Co. Penna. Here the family were attacked with small pox and the wife died. He remained here until the children were recovered, the youngest eight months old and the oldest four years old. He decided to take the children back to Connecticut and leave them with friends. He took a yoke

of oxen and cart, bought a cow, tied it to the cart, put the three children in the cart and took them to Connecticut, two hundred sixty miles through the wilderness, over rough roads or trails, forded rivers and creeks. He had a tin cup that he used to milk the cow with and fed the children, they all arrived safe and sound.
After leaving his family in Connecticut he went back to Wyoming, he was Captain of Infantry with Colonel Hartley and helped destroy the Indian village where your home is now.
He was also Captain with General Sullivans Army, was wounded at Chemung and was compelled to return to Fort Sullivan and back to Wyoming.
He was arrested the latter part of September 1787 at Wilkesbarre, charged with treason, set at liberty Nov. 1788, pardoned by the Gov. of Pennsylvania Jan. 9, 1792. He was elected sheriff of Luzerne County and in the spring of 1789 he took his family to Tioga Point. He served several terms in the Legislature, built the turnpike Tioga Point to Ithaca.
He married for his second wife Mrs. Abigail Bidlack, the widow of Captain Bidlack. He settled east of the Susquehanna River on what is now the Nat. Walker property. He cleared this land and established a home.
He was sometimes called an atheist but he was continually fighting for the rights of the Connecticut settlers. He had risked his life on several occasions in their behalf. The following letter is to his son who made that trip from Windsor, Bucks County Pennsylvania to Canaan, Conn. in an ox cart.

Athens, 9th of May 1824.

My dear Son:-

Your letter of April the 14th announcing the death of Sally, your wife, I received on Friday the last day of April. I was then on my journey to Ithaca and did not return home until last Friday. I heard of her death about two days before by a letter from a Mr. Salisbury to Col Satterlee.
I can sympathize with you in the loss of a companion, I know that it is a trying scene to you and your children- I have experienced afflictions of the same kind by the death of your mother when you was a child, but we ought not to murmur or repine at the just dealings of our Heavenly Father; he is good unto all and his tender mercies are over all his works.
There is no injustice in the dealings of Jehovah, man was born to die.
He that gave has a right to take his own at such time as he pleases. We are informed in Sacred Writ that the dust (our mortal bodies ) shall return to earth as it was, and the spirit shall return to the God what gave it.
The mortal body of your bosom companion has returned to the earth to mingle with its mother dust, but her spirit is not there, it was wafted on the wings of some kind angel to the God that gave it. To that God who is love and who loved her from before the foundation of the world and sent his only begotten son into the world to save his people from their sins.
God cannot change, he will never cease to be a God of boundless Love, Justice and Mercy. The being that he ever loved he will love to an endless eternity- your companion has gone to the arms of that Saviour who shed rivers of blood on the Cross on Calvery's Mount to attone for the sins of a guilty world, who gave himself a ransom for all to be testified in due time.
Your children feel the loss of a kind, tender and loving mother, but you are left in the hands of a Merciful God who is a father to the fatherless and orphans, and who can do infinitely better by his offspring than an earth-

ly parent or a companion can do. My dear Son and loving grand children, be silent, put your trust in your Heavenly Father, he will protect you under the shadow of his wings against all the storms and tempests of this world, and I trust that that when he has done serving himself with you here, he will receive you to mansions of bliss where sickness, pain and death nor sorrow shall be no more, and where parting shall be no more- and where praising God, and singing songs of redeeming love shall be your employ through the wasteless ages of eternity.

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My kindest respects to you and children,
From your affectionate father,
John Franklin.

Mr. Billa Franklin.

This letter is addressed in the following manner:

Mr. Billa Franklin
Palmyra
County of Ontario
N. Y.

The Postmaster will confer a favor
by forwarding this letter. John Franklin

The land where your farm is was in the land grant of Connecticut 1786, this is where Col. Allan got the place where Mr. Hoover is now, but it did not stick, and it was ruled out and your deed is based on the Penna. title, the original was 264 acres bought from Arthur Irwin surveyed 1785, patented 1792. Some of the valley property is based on Conn. grants and some on Penna. grants. One farm would be for the Penn. people and his next door neighbor would be for the Conn. people. If they could have shot the land agents and jobbers there would have been no trouble. The Penna. land owners got the Delaware and the Susquehanna Indians to raid the Connecticut settlers, but the Yankees stuck to their land and they have won the admiration of all the inhabitants of the thirteen original states.
There were one hundred families in Bradford County prior to the Revolution. Thomas Cooper, one of the Commissioners gave the best answer to the land question; he notified the Governor of Pennsylvania, that if the State of Pennsylvania would give the Connecticut people the same break as the Penna. settlers there would be no trouble.
The Governor of Pennsylvania wanted to send troops in here to drive out the Connecticut people, but Mr. Cooper advised against it, as he claimed the Yankees were a hard working set of people and had certain rights that ought to be respected.

At that time very little money was in circulation, nearly all trade was carried on by barter, the English money was most commonly used but each state had their own money, that is, this bunch of settlers used at times what they called Connecticut money, but gold and silver from foreign countries was used as a medium of exchange and was good everywhere, the old Spanish money called pieces of eight were in great demand.

What they called a full share was 2000 acres and one half share was 1000 acres, these two elements were continually quarreling with each other,

Considerable trouble was had here locally, a few murders, several cases of tar and feathers, burning of buildings was common.

Now I will quote two authorities on ths question, this is from the Historical Society of the State of Pennsylvania "The final settlement was arrived at after three local wars, the first Pennamite War 1678 to 1771 which left the Connecticut people still in possession of the Wyoming Valley, the second Pennamite War in which the Pennsylvania people destroyed a Connecticut settlement at Muncy, but later were defeated near Wyoming by the Connecticut men under Captain Zebulon Butler and the third Pennamite War which followed the decision of seven commissioners appointed by Congress to settle the dispute between Connecticut and Pennsylvania. The Commissioners decided for Pennsylvania but the Connecticut settlers refused to be ousted and fought again, Pennsylvania finally settled the matter herself by retaining the settlers and making them citizens of Pennsylvania. But it took the four acts, 1787, 1799, 1802 and 1807 before the matter was finally disposed of. Connecticut settlers were given titles to their lands and the Pennsylvania men who had tried to oust them were given money for their claim and settled elsewhere.

Now the compromise law of 1779, this from the Bradford County Historical Society under the terms of the enactment commissioners were appointed to cause a survey to be made of all lands claimed by the Connecticut settlers, in the seventeen townships previous to the Trenton decree, according to the rules and regulations among them. The commissioners were to classify and value these lands and give certificates to the owners, upon presentation to the Secretary of the land office, on the payment of a small sum a patent was granted by the state, the purchase money to be paid was first class $2 per acre; second class $1.25 an acre, third class fifty cents an acre, fourth class eight and one third cents an acre.

The lands of the Pennsylvania claimants were also to be ascertained and valued, when they came in conflict with the Connecticut men they were required to relinquish their title to the state and receive from the Treasurer in full compensation for their land, first class $5.00 an acre, second class $3.00 an acre, third class $1.50 an acre and fourth class twenty-five cents an acre.

The policy of the State of Pennsylvania was to exterminate the half share men, sometimes called the wild Yankees, there were nearly three hundred in Bradford County, they naturally got together and formed a compact known as the Wild Yankee League. Settlers under Pennsylvania titles were driven off their land, Pennsylvania surveyors were ordered out of the country. A great many of the settlers moved up into the state of New York to avoid trouble. The Yankess were gradually quieted down.
About the last act against the land holders was in Springfield township in July 1844. Now you can see this trouble started 1753 and lasted until 1844.

Let me give you an overall picture of the American Indian as far as this locality is concerned, this was taken from Charles Miners History of Wyoming. In the opinion of Mr. Heckewelder he figured that there were three distinct races of Indians in North America; he names the Lenilenape or Delaware, the Mengwe or Iroquois and the Algonquins.
Of these the principal inhabitants east of the Mississippi and south of the Great Lakes were the Iriquois and Delawares, these were divided and sub-divided in a great many tribes with a name no white man could pronounce.

The following is an Indian tradition concerning the origin of the Five Nations, in an account given by old Cannassatego, of the manner in which his country was made and peopled: "When our good Manitta raised Akanishionegy out of the great waters, he said to his brethern, how fine a country is this, I will make Red Men, the best of men to enjoy it; then with five handfuls of red seeds, like the eggs of flies, did he strew the fertile fields of Onondaga. Little worms came out of the seeds, and penetrated the earth, when the spirits who had never seen the light, entered into it and united with them, Manitta watered the earth with his rain, the sun warmed it, the worms with the spirits in them grew, putting forth little arms and legs, and moved the light earth that covered them.

After nine moons they came forth, perfect boys and girls. Manitta covered them with his mantle of warm purple cloud, and nourished them with milk from his finger ends. Nine summers did he nurse them, nine summers more did he instruct them how to live.

In the meantime he made for their use trees, plants and animals of various kinds. Ankanishionegy was covered with woods and filled with creatures. Then he assembled his children together and said, "Ye are Five Nations, for ye sprang each from a different handful of seed I sowed, but ye are all bretheren and I am your father for I made ye all; I have nursed and brought you up; Mohocks, I have made you bold and valiant, and see I give you corn for your food; Oneidas, I have made you patient of pain and hunger, the nuts and fruits of the trees are yours; Senecas, I have made you industrious and active, beans do I give you for nourishment; Cayugas, I have made you strong, friendly and generous, ground nuts and every root shall refresh you; Onondagas, I have made you wise, just and eloquent, squashes and grapes I have given you to eat, and tobacco to smoke in Council, the beasts, birds and fishes have I given you all in common. As I have loved and taken care of you all, so do you love and take care of each other. Communicate freely to each other the good things I have given you and learn to imitate each others virtues. I have made you the best people in the world, and I give you the best country, you will defend it from the invasions of other nations, from the children of other Manittas, and keep possession of it for yourselves, while the sun and moon give light and the waters run in the rivers. This you shall do if you observe my words. Spirits, I am now about to leave you, the bodies I have given you will in time grow old and wear out so that you will be weary of them, or from various accidents they may become unfit for your habitation, and you will leave them, I cannot remain here always to give you new ones, I have great affairs to mind in distant places and I cannot again attend so long to the nursing of children. I have enabled you therefore among yourselves to produce new bodies, to supply the place of old ones, that every one of you when he parts with his old habitation may in due time find a new one, and never wander longer than he chose under the earth deprived of the light of the sun.

Nourish and instruct your children as I have nourished and instructed you, be just to all men and kind to strangers that come among you, so shall you be happy and loved by all."

Saying this he wrapped himself in a bright cloud and went like a swift arrow to the sun, where his brethern rejoiced at his return.

From thence he often looked at Akanishionegy, and pointing, showed with pleasure to his brothers, the country he had formed and the nations he had produced to inhabit it, the country of the Five Nations. They thus distinguished themselve from white men and black men, but their complexion is not properly red, it is rather the color of copper or mahogany.

The Five Nations were the Mohawks, Senecas, Onondagas, Oneidas and Cayugas.

They afterwards added the Tuscaroras, this combination controlled a nation as large as the thirteen original states.

This was the Indian situation in the eastern part of the United States, when the white man started to settle this country, prior to this period, perhaps some other tribes were in power.

The great thing about the Six Nations was this: they had sense enough to organize and through this organization they ruled this country and enslaved the weaker tribes.

Hiawatha, who organized the six great nations, had a girl friend, Minnehaha,

At any time they were able to put thousands of able bodied warriors in the field, they would take a sack made by their squaws, put in parched indian corn mixed with maple sugar, called yokeag, smoked deer meat, called jerked venison or buffalo meat, travel 1000 to 1500 miles from their base and no tribe or combination of tribes were able to protect themselves against this combination.

The great head or capital was at Onondaga and was also known as Supreme Council, all laws were made here, all expeditions were planned and carried out, all action of any kind had to come through this Supreme Council; composed of delegates from all six tribes.

The Delaware and Susquehanna Indians were at one time very powerful tribes, but the Six Nations conquered them and enslaved them and they were sent eventually to the Ohio River. The Six Nations divided this great empire into three provinces, the Mohawks east of the Delaware River and along the St.Lawrence; the Cayugas south of the Great Lakes along the Mississippi River; the Senecas and Oneidas west of the Deleware River.

The Onondagas were the most intelligent tribe of all, they had charge of kindling the great sacred fire. The Iroquois were next to the Mohawks who had considerable control over the New England Indian tribes.

1869 the Iriquois sent an army of 1200 men and sacked Montreal, Canada, and killed a great many of the French.

The Wyandots were the ruling tribe of Canada, but the Iroquois drove them 1000 miles west and nearly exterminated them; what was left of them took refuge among the great Sioux tribes of what is now Minnesota, Wisconsin and the Dakotas.

In our immediate vicinity there were no regular established tribe, down at the point, there was always a guard stationed to stop and check all people going up and down the river, they usually had a representative of the Iroquois or Seneca stationed there.

The local tribes might be from any subdued tribe, they had no permanent residence here but were here with the consent of the Six Nations after they got organized; the reason the Indian took the scalp of the one he killed was to get credit from his chief and prevent this Indian from going to the Indian heaven, there are no bald headed Indians in their heaven and I never saw one here on earth.

In 1710 a Chief from each of the five tribes visited England, the Tuscaroras did not join with them until 1712. The polititians of England outdid themselves in enter aining them. One of the Indian Chiefs died on his way back and was buried at Wilkesbarre, as they dug up a medal from King George the first with the Queens picture on it.

In 1756 the English declared war on France, the French held Canada and the Mississippi River; the English or Colonies held the Atlantic coast. The Indians took the side of the French and waged war on the English settlers for one thousand miles, killing and scalping and destroying property of the

of the settlers.

The Jesuit Missionaries were used by the French as spies and to spread the French propoganda, so the English claimed the French promised the Indians that they would get back the land taken by the English.

At Sheshequin and Wyalusing there were large settlements of Indians that had been converted to our Christianity by the Moravian Missionaries. They lived there six years in peace under the Moravians.
The Six Nations had sold the land to the Connecticut people without consulting the settlers, the Connecticut settlers gave whisky to the Indians and caused any amount of trouble to get the Indians to move.
In 1770 they agreed to move to the Ohio where the Delaware Indians had been compelled to go before them.
A party of men went due west through the wilderness with their teams of oxen. the women and children went down the river in canoes to Sunbury and up the west branch, only a few of either party reached their destination.

Just to give you an idea how the people of Pennsylvania treated the Indians - At the time John Penn, a grandson of the founder of Pennsylvania, came to Pennsylvania in the capacity of Lieut. Governor, his father and uncle were large land owners in this state and lived in England, in 1764 he offered by proclamation the following bounties for scalps of Indians, this part of the Penn family ceased to be Quakers.
Male above ten years captured $150, scalped $134 every female and every male under ten captured $130, every female above the age of ten scalped $50

The Quakers did not want to fight the Indians; I want to put this little story in here as a matter of record.
At the battle of Wyoming a little girl by the name of Frances Slocum, five years old was taken prisoner by the Indians. After the Revolution her brothers looked all over the State of New York for her but could not locate her, her mother could never believe that she was dead and all through her life she imagined the little girl was in the room with her and as she lay on her dying bed and the end was near she imagined the little girl was still there playing beside the bed, just as she had played there before the battle of Wyoming. Sixty years after she was taken prisoner there was an article published in the paper of a white woman out in Ohio who had been taken by the Indians when she was a little girl five years old, her relatives went to Ohio and located her but she could not believe them or recognize them. Then one of them told her that this girl while playing hit one of her fingers leaving a scar, she looked at her right hand and there was the scar on her second finger, then she believed them. It seems she had grown up as one of of the tribe, married a chief and had children; the first chief died and she had married again, she would not go back to Wyoming again, they wrote to her but this is the way she answered them, "Please let me stay in my beautiful home in the west, where I played as a child, in my age let me rest where the bright flowers grow and the wild waters play. In my heart dearest friends let me stay."

To show you the present status of what was once the powerful Six Nations nearly all have disappeared, a few of the Mohawks, Cayugas and Onondagas now live in Canada, and the balance live in Oklahoma on Reservations along with the Tuscaroras. The Senecas live on several Reservations in New York State, the Oneidas have a Reservation in New York State and one in Wisconsin. There are 400,000 Indians in the U. S. at the present time, there are 150 tribes located on two hundred Reservations.

The Indian is the native of various countries, some built cities, some cultivate the soil, some raise cattle and some build ships.
The North American Indian is what you would call a bow and arrow family; that is, he made his living by following the hunt. If the game got scarce he packed up and followed the game such as buffalo, deer and other fur bearing animals. Certain places like the central part of New York State in particular around the lakes they had permanent settlements and would send out hunting and trapping expeditions to wherever they could find game.
The squaw cut the wood, carried the water, raised the corn and vegetables.
They dont seem to know where they came from, but you look in my album, and look at the picture of the three Indians, the one standing is from the mountains of the Pacific, the other two are from the Atlantic coast.
These Indians were separated when the Spanish conquered the country and took over and this is about the first time they ever got together.
They are both San Blas Indians, there is no question where their ancestors came from and that was Asia and I have noticed the same characteristics among thousands of other Indians. 200,000 Indians was about all there was east of the Mississippi River when the white man came. About the first we hear of the Indians in this country is when Stephen Brule was here on Spanish Hill in 1615.They had a large settlement on the northern part of the hill west side of the D. L. & W. R.R. and no doubt the fortifications were supervised by some white man. This hill was about 1,000 feet above sea level. Ed Tozer of Athens had an uncle that plowed the top of this hill, eleven acres, for several years and remembers the old stockades.

Some people claim that the Insians built this hill, but if the Indian would not cut the wood for his squaw, he certainly would not make a pile of dirt like this. No it was caused in the ice age and you will see the same formation along the creeks and rivers.

When the white man came to this country, the Indians were on the decline and the white man's rotten whiskey and veneral diseases was fast eliminating him from the picture.

There are two outstanding characteristics about the American Indian. First they were the only race of people that the English and French could not enslave. He would die before he would work for anyone. Second he was picked for his ability to fight or run a foot race and was always first in battle and at the head of his men, not behind them.
The Indian regarded all labor as degrading and fit only for women.
His squaw built his wigwam, cut his wood, carried his burdens when on a trip, while he hunted or fished, they sometimes accompanied him in battle, she cut the trees, scratched the land, planted the seed, skinned his game, dried the pelts and made his clothes, she had what was left after he got through eating and always had the coldest placeiin the wigwam; this seems to be right the reverse of what the white man has today.

The Indian's weapons were the tomahawk, bow and arrow and some used spears. In the tropics the spear is made from the black palm, when seasoned it is the hardest wood known. This one of mine came from the head hunters at the head waters of the Amazon River in Peru, you will notice it is trimmed with snake skins and feathers. The long spear came from the San Blas, the same kind of wood; but is used for spearing fish, the other one is used on any animals of the jungle or on each other.

You are a whole lot safer among the Indians than you are among your own people, if you are not wanted, you are told so, then it is up to you to stay out and if you are wanted, you are safe and all your baggage.
Some Indians use the knife, and are good at throwing it, if you will notice in the album the little Indian girl up in the Andes of Chili, her

mother told her to kill the rooster, she pulled out the knife and threw it at least twenty-five feet, it hit the rooster in the neck knocking him down, she caught the rooster and finished cutting his head off and handed it to her mother.
Everyone in that country wears a knife, it looks rather queer to see them in church carrying a knife and I suppose it looked just as queer to them to see me in a church, but it is their custom and therefore it is right.

They dont want a drunken person around, neither do I, or anyone else. They have but a few words and half of their conversation is carried on with their hands. Their children are the most obedient of any children I have ever met. In living with the various tribes I have never heard a mother holler at her children or argue with their kids, they just did as they were told by their parents. If you four boys could have been tutored by an Indian squaw for about six months boot training instead of your grandmother, how much better the whole neighborhood would have been.

I have never seen a wild Indian laugh, smile or cry. One time I dressed a bad knife wound in an Indians arm, I used real hot water to clean it with, then I put iodine on it and he never made a move or changed his expression.

I have attended their marriage ceremonies and no one laughed or smiled, rather a dull marriage.
At their funerals, no one cried, just a blank expression. Some bury their dead in the trees, some in the ground.

All the Indians, no matter what part of the world they inhabit, their implements were always buried with them, some put water on the graves the same as we put flowers. I asked an Indian one time if they came out and drank a great deal of this water, he told me sometimes plenty; this is why they are always buried near a creek, the squaws fill them every day for a while, then they are neglected the same as most of ours.

I want to tell you something about the East Indian, first we will tell you something about his country, it has an area of about 2,000,000 sq. miles. Only ten per cent of the population can read or write, the best part of India is dry, but since the British took over they have installed an extensive irrigating system of which few English families derive millions of dollars of profits from them. The British claim they are not capable of ruling themselves, they told the Irish the same thing and made them believe it for over seven hundred years; they are telling us Americans the same thing and checking up on the general conditions in this country; I begin to believe it myself.

In 1857 they had the great Indian mutiny, this time they chained the Sepoys to the mouth of the British canon before firing it.
Prior to this rebellion India was ruled by the British East Indian Trading Company, since the rebellion the British Government have taken over and ruled through a Governor appointed by the crown. Right at the time 11.45 there is a great deal of unrest in India, the same as the Indies where the British are using the Japanese troops equipped with American munitions and food furnished under the lend lease plan. In other words we gave it to them to put down the natives who are fighting for the four freedoms that we heard so much about, and the right to live the same as we have.
We are taught that they are a poor dumb lot, but they are not.

There are five casts of them, the lowest is the coolies, that is the

the laborers.

India has four hundred million people made up of sixty different religious bodies. The principle ones are two hundred forty million Hindoos, ninety million Mohammedans, thirteen million Buddhists and about six million so called Christians.

English traders have handled their affairs since 1757, they own or control nearly all of the wealth and rule by keeping the people fighting each other on the religious questions.

I had at one time about twenty of them on the Canal, not one less than six foot two and not less than two hundred pounds; they wore that cloth around their heads and if they changed to any other head gear they were promptly kicked out of church. The doctors tell you to let the air strike your head to prevent baldness, well this piece of cloth they wound around their head is six foot by twelve foot and is folded down to a width of six inches.

They never cut their hair and it is wound in a knot on top of their head, their hair is jet black and is finer than any woman's hair to be found anyanywhere.

The highest mountain in the world is in the northern part of India, called Mt. Everett, twenty nine thousand one hundred and forty feet high.

The Indian certainly knows the forest. I have seen them follow a trail that I could not follow with a map, I have been out on the open sea with them in total darkness, no moon or stars to guide them but they always landed at the place they started for. A great many people think their women are public property, but dont molest one of the young girls or mothers or you might find yourself pulling a poisoned arrow from between your ribs.

As a rule the Indian wants children, they marry at the age of thirteen or fourteen and if there are no children in a reasonable time they dont do as King Henry the VIII did, get the axe, but the man just walks out and if he is a good hunter or fisherman he has no trouble in getting another wife. If he is a good hunter or fisherman or in other words, if he brings home the bacon and this applies to the boys the world over, regardless of race or color. Your future dont look too bright to me, that is judging from the fish you bring home from the mill race or the woodchucks you drag in from the meadow. The Indian mother is the same as a white woman, the minute the marriage is pulled off she starts to brag about her son-in-law, then the deserted wife is forgotten by the tribe or in other words there is an open season on her, she spends the balance of her life hauling water and cutting wood and this is the type the trappers and others take up with.

I have known them to marry a widower with children, the Indian mother did not get fifty dollars for themselves, thirty dollars for the first, twenty dollars for the next numbers unlimited, from our dear old Uncle Sam.

Another tribe of Indians as we call them are known as Esquimos, there are about forty thousand of them and are clear around the top of the globe, on both sides of the Arctic Circle, they do not care for our civilization, and in a way you cannot blame them. In the winter they move near the salt water and live in homes built of ice, their clothing is bear, wolf, wild dog or reindeer skin and they live on fish and meat, if you can call it meat. It is usually the blubber of whales. They have one language. In summer they move in land to get the fresh water fishing and the reindeer or caribou which is the same, they use dog sleds for winter travel and caribou for summer travel, the milk from the caribou is twenty-four per cent butter fat.

The Russians crossed this animal with holstein cattle and are building up a new breed of cattle which look promising.

There is a place on the Yana River called Verkhoyask, the coldest place

on earth, 93 below zero. Milk is sold in pieces.
In Siberia, Russia there are countless acres of timber and above this line is where the reindeer go also countless birds of all kinds; they go there for a few months of summer to produce their young.
The ground is covered with moss, that they all feed on and the greatest variety, and the most beautiful flowers in the world. The animals and birds remain here until their young are old enough to travel, then they move back to the dense forest of Siberia for the winter feeding on the boughs of the trees. The birds go on farther south into China. In the forests of Siberia are what they call the wild dog, it has the finest fur of all animals.

The natives of this country have always been of great help to the explorers. The Russians had a tribe living on the land near the white sea. They did not send Missionaries to Christianize them or to find out if they had any gold or oil, they lived like animals and the families were not separated.
The Russians built comfortable houses, equipped them with stoves, knocked them down and took them up there by boat, put them up gradually they took to the houses. Next was the school house, then the club house.
Now they are all separated and are living as other families are living.
They are all getting their education and at the present time many of them are serving in the Russian army.

The Gulf Stream comes from the Gulf of Mexico from different parts of the Ocean, flows northeast to England and Norway, after it leaves Norway part of it flows east and part to the west.
When a person is heading south out of New York on a steamer, before you get to the Gulf Stream it is cold, the next morning you wake up and put on your white clothes for you are in the tropics.
The English, Russian and the people from Norway tried to find the northwest passage and the northeast passage, but they found seals, ermine, ivory, the tusk of the whale and manuths tusk, plenty of whale.
Some of these whale would produce thirty tons of oil besides the whale bone. You will look in my album and see the picture of the whale that ran aground in Christobal Harbor, it was one hundred five feet long and an estimated weight of sixty five ton. As soon as they found the above they forgot all about the east or west passage; today they find gold, silver, copper, coal, iron ore and lumber. They use water power to a great extent. The Viking or the natives of Norway were the hardiest race of people known, they were large and blond. Two centuries before Christ they showed up on the Scandinavian Peninsula. Perry reached the North Pole 1908, Amundsen the South Pole 1911.
Amundsen, the great explorer, was to the Isthmus in 1913 on the Fram. They wanted to go through the Canal and could if they could get permission. They offered to put on and American crew and the American flag, but Colonel Goethals says no dice. Her bottom was nine feet thick, her rudder and keel raised up inside. She was built nearly flat and when she got into an ice jam they would raise the keel and rudder and she would raise on top of the ice. They wanted to go through the canal, up the west coast to the far north and drift around the North American continent with the ice.
They thought it would take about four years to go around, they charged twenty-five cents to go aboard, I took your mother and grandmother and went through the boat, we mailed several letters addressed to Waverly, New York, expected to get them in about four years, they were mailed July 1913 and they arrived at the Waverly post office Dec. 1926. Amundsen was lost in the Arctic regions in 1928.

Now back to the Indian. In 1621 Massasoit the Indian chief taught the settlers of Plymouth how to raise the Indian corn, this was the first in America. In 1634 the Indians on the Potomac River taught the people of St. Marys how to make hoe cake or what is known in this section as johnny cake, this was the first in America.

On the spot where your house stands now was one time the settlement of a tribe of Indians that were driven out of the southern states and settled on this creek, they were called Tutelos. An old Indian by the name of Tom Toodle lived up the creek at the foot of your woods. This is where the town got its name in the early days.

They were discovered by Zeisberger, the Missionary, he said they were drunken bums, but I never did take a great deal of stock in a missionary. At the council in Easton, Oct. 1758 they sent a delegate along with the other fourteen tribes, so they had some standing among the other Indians at that time, regardless of their drunkeness.

The village was destroyed by Colonel Hartley in 1778, he took at Tioga Point fifteen captives, fifty-eight cattle, twenty-eight boats. When your father dug for the foundation of the north silo in 1908 they dug up several skeletons of the Indians and right in front of your house, near the old mill race, is where they made their arrow points out of flint; this is a hard stone and is only found in certain places. In some parts of the world it is white, I have some in my collection and your Uncle Joe found one on this spot.

The points are made by getting a stone hot then dropping water on it and it will chip off or they can split it with another piece of flint. The round stone in the cabinet with the hole in it was used as a hammer, and came from the southern part of Chili. Several good points have been obtained from this field and you can see a few of the poor ones there now. This flint was also used to ignite the spark on the old flint lock guns and was used until 1830 when the percussion cap was invented.

Gun powder was invented by Roger Bacon an Englishman in 1250.

Among the well known Indians that visited this valley was Red Jacket, a Seneca Chief, he was born at Canoga, N. Y. where he died. He served with the British during the Revolution, but with the colonies in the war of 1812. He did not sign the treaty at Fort Stanwyck, and was opposed to the missionaries. President Washington gave him a silver medal in 1813.

Framers brother was a friend of Red Jacket also Chief Halftown and Big Tree. Another great Indian was Fish Carrier, these two Indians were fine types of the North American Indian and good square shooters, they were great orators, but the interpreters were so dam crooked that these men did not get full credit that was due them. If they were alive today they would either be in the pulpit or Congress.

At the mouth of Orcott Creek was a tribe of Shawnee Indians, another Indian or half breed was Queen Esther, she had her village on the flats opposite the point or on your left as you are going south on Route 220, just below Green's Landing, There is a monument there for Colonel Hartley, who destroy her town the same time he destroyed the one at your home. Queen Esther was part French, and a great many books have been written about her, but none of them ever accused her of being good looking, in fact I think she was rather hard boiled. On the road to Wilawanna, opposite the dam on your left is a glen or gulch, it is called Queen Esther's Glen. Why? no one seems to know, but the story is she threatened to jump off this ledge if a certain Indian did not marry her, but from all descriptions, this dame did not have to beg any Indian to marry her.

All she had to say to the Indian was that a marriage ceremony had just been performed and he was a party of the second part to it.
She took part in the Wyoming massacre. There are several accounts of just what became of her, but I don't believe anyone really knows.

The Indian dances occur regularly when not at war, the first is for maple syrup, next for the strawberries, next for the green corn, then for the harvest, the last was for the new year, this was the white dog dance and was supposed to sacrifice something to the Great Spirit.

Queen Esther's first husband was Echobund, her second was a guy they called Steeltrap

The squaws grow all the garden truck, corn was their principle food but they grew squash and pumpkin. The Indian corn or maze was a cereal grass and is a native of North America. The caffir corn is a native of Africa, it is sort of a sorgum and is grown as a food in Africa but is used in this country for poultry food and is sometimes called Indian millet. This was ground by the squaws in a hollow stone, placing the corn in it then rolling with another large stone. there is one in my cabinet and they are used in certain parts of the world today. The old settlers used the same corn but they mixed bear grease with the meal or maple syrup and a little salt. I have eaten corn cakes baked on a hot stone and they are not so good.
A person could make out on this especially if you had a good piece of baked fish or deer meat. They clean the fish and the ones they do not use right away they put over the fire on a rack with a little salt on them. After you clean off one half inch of soot and wash then fry you can eat it raw and it is good.

The Indian has a religion as all human beings have but it is not right because it is not like ours, the trouble with the Christians is that they do not understand Christianity; all preach about the unknown and all are headed for the same place but by different bus routes.
When I was a boy they preached about hell, what a bad place to go to and it was a hard life to shovel coal, but I dont hear so much about it in later years as being so bad, probably the C. I. O. Union has compelled the devil to put in automatic stokers.
All claim divine power but it is up to you to show your income tax receipt. When you rap on the gates of St. Peter, no one else can answer for your deeds on this earth, therefore you should so live that when you die even the undertaker will be sorry.
A great many of them believe in the Great Spirit and this spirit may be in a dog, fish or some wild animal. I remember an old Indian on the island of Cardi, he was about ready to pass out, the great medicine man had several kinds of herbs burning under his hammock. I looked him over and gave him a good dose of salts and in two days he went fishing with us.
Their medicine man is sometimes called a prophet and they go along with him if he dont get too raw or goes to messing around their squaw. They had no schools but would leave certain marks on trees or stone that all could understand. They had no churches or jails. It seems these two go together wherever we plant Christian civilization. Then we take on a government and the more employees that we can get on the tax payers payroll the better we like it. As a rule he is or was as truthful as the white man, if not more so. He does not know the meaning of truth any more than the white man

or woman knows the meaning of an oath or affidavit, such as an application for gas tires or sugar. According to a letter dated Albany Mar. 7, 1782 the Seneca Indians collected scalps from the white people along the frontiers of New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Virginia, the following numbers to to be sent to the King of England, just to show him that they had not been idle - three hundred fifty-nine farmers, forty-three soldiers, eighty-eight women, one hundred ninety-three boys, two hundred eleven girls, twenty-nine infants, one hundred twenty-two mixed, all cured and marked.

The great thing the Indian lacked was sanitation, except one tribe I lived with, and they went bathing in the nude every evening at sun down and they were the cleanest Indians I ever saw.

They have no hair on their bodies or face but a heavy growth of coarse black hair on their heads. The dirtiest was the Seminole Indian of Florida, one time your grandmother and I saw an Indian squaw setting down in a dirty drainage ditch washing clothes and a large water moccasin swimming within six feet of her, if I had to choose between them, I believe I would have taken the snake. In one tribe of Indians I lived with called the San Blas, the Indian girls wound wrists and ankles with strings of beads, these were strung on a string in a way that when they had a band of three or four inches wound around they had marks representing different animals with these colored beads.

It looked funny to me or it seemed funny to hear the white girls with a four inch heel on their shoes criticizing these Indian girls for wrapping these beads around their ankles and arms. They used their paint for their faces as well as the men when the men were on the war path, this paint was made from clay, different colored berries and sap from the trees, usually the maple. The paint cost nothing. The white women wore face paint and lotions that at one time cost more than it did to maintain the United States Navy. The white women use the paint to cover up defects in their skin and to attract attention of the opposite sex and without this great cost to humanity there would be a great many lonesome females in the old world.

But why the Indian girls just drew a streak down across their face is more than I could dope out.

The Indian head on the nickle is that of a Sioux Indian.

The Indian had no horse or any beast of burden in the old days, the horse was brought to America by the Spainards.

Now to figure horse power; any power that will lift thirty-three thousand pounds one foot per minute is considered one horse power, now dont try this with your pony or that Holstein bull for they will not register.

The first horse was a little shaggy pony from Asia, it was tamed and brought to Europe and developed up to the present standards.

The mule is the off-spring of the jack ass and the mare, they will not reproduce.

Nature produced the greatest beast of burden we ever had, works in all kinds of weather, thousands of feet under ground or thousands of feet above ground, it makes the best pack animal for the army, if it goes through a bridge or slides down a ravine it will lie there until it is released, while a horse will kill itself trying to get loose.

The Indians main mode of travelling was by boat of which they had two kinds, birch bark was a favorite in the north. At certain times of the year about April, the bark is loose the same as the willow that grows down near the creek, they cut the log to length, slit the bark the whole length of it, loosen the bark, take out the log, put spreaders in the center, bind the two

ends together with buckskin thorns then get the pitch from the pine tree, heat it on a hot stone and cement the ends with it and they got a light durable boat, it can be carried around waterfalls, used on the river and will not leak. The other is what they call a dug out. They cut or burn out the inside of a tree, shape the outside like a canoe. This boat is heavy and usually used around lakes. The boat was made from cedar as a rule or from the spruce.

We have friends on Rincon Reservation in California, his name is Black Hawk and her name is Pale Moon. A few years ago her half sister took the beauty prize in Hollywood. Look in the little book and see their pictures and you will find they are not hard to rest your eyes on.
Pale Moon is the one that made me the Indian dolls and he is the one that gave me the rattle snake fang and the rattle that are in the cabinet. They raise English walnuts on their five acres. The English walnut is had by grafting on to an American walnut, I sent him some from the tree along the upper mill race. Black Hawk and his wife play in pictures in Hollywood, he is an officer in the Indian Actors Association and she is an officer in the Auxiliary.
We still correspond with them, they are both well educated.

November 16th to the 23rd 1790, the Oneidas and the Onondagas, the Cayugas and Chippewas, about sixteen hundred of them in all held a meeting in Athens to make treaties; they brought their squaws along as was their custom while on a peaceful mission; Red Jacket and Fish Carrier were there.
When Red Jacket died they put his body in a box and the relatives kept it in their home and his descendants have still got him in that box as far as I can learn.

The only tribe of Indians that fought with the colonies were the Oneidas. They had high old times in Athens during their stay and I suppose it was like Athens is today or night on a pay day of the Ingersol Rand. Plenty of paint on the squaws, plenty of loose talk and bragging on the part of the warriors and plenty of bootleg in both; times or customs do not seem to change at all.

In the days of the Indian as soon as the ice went out in the spring, the shad came up the river to spawn the same as the suckers do today.
They would follow up the little creeks or streams such as the one near your home at that time, the whole creek came by your house and was a running stream the year around. Believe it or not, it is many a good string of sun fish, perch, rock bass and suckers I have caught out of there when I was about the age of Bob. The shad weighed from two to ten pounds each and were a good eating fish; they came up to deposit their spawn and in the fall the young and the old would go back to sea. This migration was stopped when they put in the dam for the canal, it could not happen today on account of the river being filled with carp which would destroy their spawn.
The Indians gathered them by the ton, they would clean them, the extra ones they would put on a rack over the fire and they would keep for a long time, especially if they had a little salt on them. The old settlers depended on them for part of their living and would come for fifty miles around to the river to get them by trading produce and corn liquor, this liquor mixed with a little honey was guaranteed to kill at twenty rods, I suppose about like our bootleg stuff today. The Indian caught the fish by making nets out of vines, putting a stone on the lower part to hold it down. You will find the stones today, Mr Kilpatrick of Wilawanna found several of them when he cleaned out a pond near the river.

Salt was their greatest handicap, it came from Onondaga and would sell as

high as twelve dollars per bushel or one hundred fair sized shad.
The fish were cured and put in barrels by the traders, put on rafts and floated down to the lower Susquehanna River market; one man gave twenty barrels of shad for one Durham cow.

The Indian grew his own tobacco and all Indians smoked, men women and children, I have seen little Indian girls eight years of age smoke, not in the old days, but a few years ago.
The Indians would not cure or sweat the tobacco as we do today and one pull out of the pipe would knock your hat off. You have to be plenty tough to smoke it.

At one time they killed plenty of buffalo in the central part of New York State, the buffalo would come here for the salt, the Indians cured their skins and used them for clothing and to build their tepees.
In 1867 and 68, Buffalo Bill killed four thousand of them to supply the laborers on the Kansas Pacific R.R. The Indians smoked the meat and it was part of their food, the Indian killed the game for food, the white man killed for sport. The last buffalo was killed in Pennsylvania in 1810, in the central part of the state.
The Indian had no cats and very few dogs, the Indian girl never played with a boy and the Indian girls were never out of sight of their mothers until after marriage. I guess we did not inherit a great deal from the Indians.
The Indian did not advance or improve his own condition and he stood in the path of civilization, but he had as much right as the King of England or the land agent and I guess we have not shown such a vast improvement as far as our government is concerned.

We wake up this morning and find since the landing of the Pilgrims, three hundred and twenty-five years ago, that the people who have produced all the food and clothing and shelter, after working twelve to sixteen hours a day every day of our life have eighty-five per cent of their homes either mortgaged or abandoned. This out fit is called farmers.

We find the millions working in the interests of society, such as transportation, distribution, utilities etc. have no more guarantee to life or the pursuit of happiness than they had three hundred and twenty-five years ago.
This ballyhoo about sixty million jobs after the war; lets analyze this question; The men working on raw material or the soil produces fourteen units, he only gets back one unit in normal times, therefore he cannot buy back only one fourteenth of what he has produced; the baker bakes so much bread himself and family starve, the shoemaker the same and you farmers produce so much milk that you have to dump it into the creek while millions of babies are starving. This seems like a bed time story, but look up the record of the number of hogs that were slaughtered and destroyed to raise the price of pork.
I have seen thousands of tons of bananas and coffee destroyed to raise the price of these two articles. The good Christians tell you to save your money, if the majority of people started to save we would tie up this government in a revolution in two weeks. It is possible for a few in many to save such as the Jews; the hatred is not against their religion but their characteristic to save and invest to become independent.
The investment is in something that has labor creating values that labor does not get; you will also find when you wake up that you are compelled to pay from fifty to two hundred and forty dollars to a bunch of gangsters to go to work for your own government in time of war even though you have a union card in your pocket. We brag of our intelligence and tell the cock-eyed world we are the braniest people on earth except the English of course, but from 1933 until we started getting ready for England's war we had twenty-five

million on the dole in a country that my God gave ten times enough for all.

The next shut-down, there will be twenty million eating out of garbage cans, they will begin to wonder why every man in Russia is working and not until then. We find a bunch of foreigners making millions off the bodies of our white American girls, called white slavery, also another bunch selling dope to our school children; the Indian was bad, but when he passes out of life's picture, you will find the Indian just as close to the pearly gates as his white brother. If we could have educated them in the three R's and improved their sanitary conditions, how much better it would have been for all concerned.

Now the old settlers: The first white man here according to the records was Brule, but no doubt the traders were here all through this country before him, but they were not interested in maps or land grants; they were interested in good prime mink and beaver skins and a good looking second hand squaw that I spoke of before. They would go to the trading posts, get staked, that is supplied with bear grease, hominy, salt, a few trinkets and a few slugs of rum and they would be gone for months. They handled the Indian language and signs like a book. The trader would return to the post, hand in his furs, and go on a good drunk until his money was gone, then back to the wilderness again.

Here is a bill of goods sold to Hollenbeck at Athens ----
24 bear skins, 31 martens, 5 fisher, 2 otter, one wildcat, 44 raccoons.
Not a bad load for a birch bark canoe.

The Missionaries traveled up and down these rivers long before the early settlers. The Huguenots were French Protestants; the Moravian Missionaries were protestants from Moravia, Germany; the Jesuits were Catholics, their order was founded by Ignatius Loyola in 1539, the Quakers or Society of Friends, (this is something I want you to read about), along with the Farm Journal, George Fox, born 1624, died 1691. He was a shoemaker apprentice. He left Leicestershire, England, at the age of twenty. After four years of traveling and observing, he came to the conclusion that the troubles of the world were due to three principal causes. 1st the Christian nations knew nothing about Christianity; 2nd there was too much insolence on the part of the leaders of men and too much humility on the part of those who were led and 3rd humanity was bleeding to death on account of inhuman wars. George Fox organized the Society of Friends, nicknamed Quakers. He wanted the world to be at peace. The Quakers were called Atheists. At one time there were fifteen thousand of them in England. Mr. Fox was locked up in jail at one time and about 1671 he came to America, about the time the Pilgrims were hanging the Quakers on Boston Common.

In Dover, three women were tied to a cart and dragged through nine different towns, and whipped across the back by the local police. This order was signed by the Hon. Richard Walden and carried out by the Rev.Mr. Reynor. He went back to England and continued his crusade for religious intolerance and universal peace.

Four years before his death, he won part of his fight. The King of England, James II, issued a proclamation allowing free thought and free speech in matters of religion. About the first settler who came to make a living and establish a home was Rudolph Fox, who settled at the mouth of Towanda Creek in 1770, he was a German and was driven out of New York State by the Mohawk Indians. A colony of these same Germans moved down the river and settled at Wyoming and Sunbury about the same time.

After Mr. Fox had settled there, he was driven out of his home by the Indians. He put his family on a raft and floated down the river to Sunbury. Afterwards he returned and straightened up the place and with his two sons and a daughter he left for Sunbury to bring up the balance of his family, leaving his eighteen year old daughter all alone in the wilderness while he was gone.

The wolves at night would crawl upon the roof of their little log house and try to get in, they smelled the meat inside. Imagine the wolves on your roof at midnight, I suppose you would be right there with your little twenty-two rifle, but my guess is that you would all be under the bed with Spot and Shep and both cats.

The daughter stayed there and looked after the place for some time and was about ready to float down the river herself when they hove in sight. Her descendants live in Towanda, and this is where the large farm south of Towanda gets its name, called Fox Chase

When this country was first settled the people had but little to start on. Some settlers brought seed in their pocket from Connecticut.
The first thing to do was to get a place to stay over night, this was done by cutting down the brush and building a brush house or a house of bark, not too good, but it kept out the wind and the wild animals.
This answered the purpose until such time as they could cut down the trees and build a log house by notching the ends of the logs and fitting them together at the corners. If they had time they squared the logs and put them together with pins. One is standing east of Lowman, N.Y. See picture in album. Mud and straw was used in between. Logs were split into slabs two or three inches thick for the roof.

While in brush huts, a fire was kept going all night to keep out the wild animals. In the log house there was always a fireplace built of flat stone, and the heat all went up the chimney, all the cooking was done on this open fire. As time went by they would get different cooking utensils, such as a frying pan with a four foot handle, then irons to hold the kettles, then fire tongs. Some of the well to do settlers had these made of brass.

For the windows they used grease paper and wooden hinges for the doors. They had in the attic cracks large enough to throw a cat through, and this is where you kids would hang out for the night.

The wheat was threshed out with a flail, then the straw was used for a tick, then when the ducks and geese grew up in the fall, their feathers were used for a feather tick. By that time they could afford a wooden bed stead ropes or vines running at right angles about six inches apart. Then in the spring when they sheared the sheep, they spun the wool and wove it into blankets. You could take a couple of these woolen blankets and a buffalo or deer hide, dig in this feather tick and you could sleep warm regardless of the snow coming through the cracks in the walls.

They had what they call a soap stone, you have one in your house at the present time, this stone was hung near the fireplace and put into your bed just before retiring, this stone would hold the heat for several hours.

The sheep's wool, after being spun on the old spinning wheel, everyone had one who could afford it, was made up into clothes, especially for the women folks, the man as a rule, used the deer skin. The deer hides were used for moccasins for the whole family.

A wool buyer, representing the Yager Manufacturing Co. of England, the people who made my camel's hair overcoat, while on an English boat, coming up from Chili, gave me the following dope on wool -----

The American and Australian sheep are washed. The discount on this wool is ten per cent, all other wool is thirty percent, that is not cleaned. Wool grown in a damp climate cannot be used with wool grown in dry climate. Wool taken from dead sheep is rated different than wool taken from live sheep.

The old settlers did their cooking and baking on a hot stove until they could build an oven outside. This was kept up until the cook stoves were made available to them, they used bear grease and maple syrup. The only light they had at night was from the fire place until they discovered coal oil or kerosene. This was found seeping out of the ground in certain places and was known by the Indians before the early settlers and was used by them for medical purposes. It was first known as rock oil and was used for lumbago and rheumatism. They would fill a bottle, put a rag into it and you could at least see the light, then they discovered the candle. You have one of the old forms, which were cylinder forms fastened together, the wick was placed down in the form and the hot tallow poured in. They thought this was something great. Then the oil lam, then gas and now electricity.

A man by the name of G.H. Bissell first discovered the illuminating qualities of coal oil. The big problem was to get it out of the ground and transport it. In 1854 a company was formed and the first well was drilled at Titusville, Pa. by F.R. Drake in 1859. Great fortunes were made in oil and many a war has been fought over oil, some day you will see the oil in the ground owned by the people, as it was intended. It will not be so long and and we will be paying a royalty to England as we have done and are doing today on rubber, tin and spices. Standard Oil is a history of a successful corporation. John D. Rockefeller paid his men well and used them good. In 1848 in a town called Terentuon, Pa. was a flourishing business operated by Samuel Kier, known as Kier's Rock Oil, sold for a liniment, good for most anything. He also started a refinery, capacity of five barrels per day, for illuminating purposes.

After the house was built, the ground was cleared for planting of oats, corn, wheat, millet and vegetables. This millet was the first known grain; all grain started from weeds, six thousand years ago, there was none cultivated as it is today, just keep the weeds and brush cut down. The grain was cut with a sickle, then the cradle, then the old side reaper, which was invented in 1834 by McCormick, then the reaper and binder, then the combine and thresher.

In Russia today, they sow twenty-five thousand acres of wheat a day with an airplane, they have a machine that cuts a swath fifty feet wide, cuts, threshes, bags and bails the straw and loads all on trucks. Twenty-five years ago the great majority in Russia were using the sickle.

In the attic over your bed hangs corn, beans, and all kinds of herbs for medical purposes. Every weed that grows could be used if we only knew what nature intended it for; the blood root is good for the digestive organs, leaves of the mountain laurel contain a sedative, the bark of the dog wood is a substitute for quinine, the white trillium is good for the intestines, the May apple is good for the liver and the root of the poke weed is good for skin diseases.

In the meantime you are raising a couple of bull calves to be used for oxen. Plowing was done with a crooked stick, the vegetables were kept in a hole in the ground underneath the house, entered through a trap door. When the women folks got to have calico for dresses, they thought themselves well off, and when they went anywhere, probably to church, they left the calico dress off until they got near the church, which was a big thing to them in the old days.

This is one of the things that made America what she is today, the freedom of worship, and any one with a good line of talk can take the Bible, or even a Sears, Roebuck catalog, mix a little scandal in it, as Billy Sunday and Bud Robinson, the cowboy evangelist did. You would be free from military duty and taxes; you will be entitled to gas and rubber; you will be looked up to by some of the citizens and down upon by others.

Any country that is dominated by the church cannot advance, no matter what it is, such as China, India, the middle east and Africa and Russia before the Revolution. Germany owes her greatness to the fact that she is forty per cent Catholic and sixty per cent Lutheran, who were kicked out of the Roman church in 1519.

They had in the old days what they called a traveling shoemaker, he would come to your place and make up the hide that you had tanned into boots and shoes for the whole family and you would give him hides for pay.
He made the hides into boots and shoes and traded them in for goods.

The means of keeping time was with the hour glass, or the shadows from the trees at certain times of the day and season. Most of them worked from sun up until sun set and shadows made no difference.

A fire was had by creating a spark from the flint, or you could go for a mile through the woods and borrow it from the neighbors, especially if there was a good looking daughter about the place.
A great many many years ago, someone rubbed two pieces of hard stone together and it was probably a bunch of kids like you; no one knows, but when the two pieces of stone came in contact with each other it created a spark of fire. The grass was dry and it set it on fire.

Now the greatest gift to man was the necessity to think, and one of the men whom I spoke of before was there and saw how the boys created this heat; then he started to think and the whole world changed. In my opinion this was the beginning of civilization. Prior to this spark, the human race was like the animal, living on raw food, then they started to roast and cook their meat and this changed their nature. Just think what fire has done to create steam and electricity, besides cooking and keeping us warm.

The grain was cleaned by holding a pan and letting it drop into a container while the wind was blowing; this was done until the invention of the fanning mill in 1834. In 1849 the first successful grain drill was made by Beckford and Hoffman, several were made prior to this but were not a success.

Their writing was done with a quill from the turkey, their ink was made from the soft maple. Maple sugar and wild honey were used in the place of sugar, chestnuts were used in the place of coffee, sage, tansy and spearmint were used in the place of tea. Salt was the hardest thing to get, sometimes it would take days to go and get their year's supply. In the spring they would gather may apples, wild berries, wild onions and artichokes.

Just see the waste of food today, each person wastes three quarters of a pound of food every day, or nineteen percent of the calories; the loss in the restaurants is six per cent, in our colleges eleven to nineteen per cent. Four hundred and fifty million dollars loss in retail stores alone in 1943, wholesale markets in vegetables and fruits seven per cent and transportation two per cent.

Now this little misunderstanding that they had with England, called the

American revolution: It is a hard matter to get the facts, the English have had influence enough to change our histories so that we wonder that they ever had to fight at all. The word Tory is a name applied to the Conservative element of Great Britain, and was for the English during the Revolution. Your forefathers were in this as well as mine.

I will try and give you an actual picture, as I see it:- In the first place, the people in America were free, or thought they were. It will be well to remember that the colonists were English and bragged about it. A few hundred English aristocrats living in our coastal cities dominated the colonies; they were opposed to popular education and democratic ideas. These people were all educated in England and were classed as English gentlemen, the great body of the colonies were farmers and a very few mechanics, no one was dirt poor, opportunities were great for securing and maintaining a home, if they were not lazy.

England owed a large debt and they wanted the colonies to pay their share, which was right, but we were not represented in their House of Commons.

William Pitt was a great friend of the colonies and worked for our cause. but he could not fight the whole British government, the people who governed the colonies were sent over by England and they were the dirtiest collection ever collected under one flag, they thought themselves better than the Americans and still do, even tho they were guilty of every crime on the calendar. The colonists thought themselves as good as any other man, and I believe they were. The American recognized no law, and doesnt today if he can get out oy it.

As a rule, the English aristocrats on one side, the Boston merchants or smugglers and politicians on the other, the Scotch money-lenders in the center, this combination was capable of starting most anything.
My forefathers paid for the land in Connecticut the second time, then they did not own it.

The first blood was shed on Boston Common March 5, 1707, when the British soldiers fired into a crowd. The English government withdrew all taxes except on tea. A bunch of men half shot on hard cider, dressed as Indians, went on board the English merchant ships and threw the tea overboard. This was known as the Boston Tea Party. December 16, 1773.

The first Continental Congress was held in Philadelphia September 5th, 1774. All states were represented except Georgia. Next of importance was the battle of Lexington on April 19, 1775, this is where Paul Revere enters the picture.
Paul was born in France, came to America and was farmed out to a man for ten years, to learn the tin and coppersmiyh trade. A very few people ever heard of him until Longfellow wrote the poem, "Paul Revere's Ride", then he became a very prominent man. He was one of the Indians who threw three hundred and forty-two chests of tea, valued at eighteen thousands pounds overboard.
He was a member of the Grand Masons, a member of the Sons of Liberty, he was a pony express rider, Boston to New York and Philadelphia. He made the round trip to Philadelphia in eleven days in 1773, changing horses several times. His own horse was a sorrel, all horses at that time were bred for riding horses, farming and logging were done with oxen.

He had a coppersmith shop in Boston that furnished the copper, five hundred pounds of bolts, spikes and trimmings for the U. S. Constitution, built in 1795, also five thousand pounds of copper sheeting. The ship was rated as a forty-four gun ship, two hundred and four foot on water line with a forty-four foot beam. She was overhauled in 1809, took part in several battles, out of commission in 1897, laid in Boston from 1925 to 1931 when she was rebuilt.

they took out the original copper and oak timbers and made them into plaques, selling them to pay the expense of overhauling. This is her picture over my cabinet, and under it is the plaque. Your Grandmother and myself were aboard her at Cristobal Harbor.

Now his ride - It seems that the colonists stole a good supply of powder and shot a short distance from Boston and took it out to Lexington and Concord. The English got wise to it and began to organize an expedition to recover it, the English had the man-of-war, the Somerset, anchored in the St. Charles River, which Paul had to cross.

Paul had been to Lexington the day before and told the people, when he returned through Charleston, that when he got to Boston he would have one lantern in the belfry of the old Christ church if they left by land, and if they left by water he would have two lanterns hung there, to notify the people all around. When he did get there he found the British were leaving by land, a boy hung the one light in the belfry, then Paul got two friends to row him across the St. Charles River, when they got to the boat they found they had no cloth to muffle the oars, they could make no noise as they had to pass within a few feet of the Somerset. One of the boys had a girl friend living in an alley up along the beach, she was up stairs just going to bed, he hollowed up to her letting her know he wanted some cloth to muffle the oars, she promptly raised the window and threw out her red woolen underwear and Paul got across the river okay.

He got a horse from Deacon Larkin. Lexington was eleven miles from where he started and Concord was about twenty miles. He was stopped by two British officers, but got away and went by the way of Medford, where he met Captain Isaac Hall of the minute men.
Then he put several shots of Captain Hall's good old Medford rum under his belt, this stuff would cause a rabbit to spit in a bull dog's face, he was then able to wake the whole surrounding country.
Revere joined up with Davis and Prescott, who were on the same mission, they were caught again, the other two escaped and continued on to Concord, Paul was returned to Lexington. This ended his famous ride. He was afterwards a lieutenant in the artillery, and was in the disasterous Penobscot Expedition, was court martialed and acquitted. Your school histories do not mention this or Captain Hall's rum. You are not supposed to say anything about this, as your mother belongs to the Daughters of the American Revolution, and she might get sore, but all in all, Paul was agood and useful man at that, and more power to Longfellow but he should have mentioned Davis and Prescott and the girl with the red underwear.

Now when you are traveling anywhere in the New England States, and the natives see your Pennsylvania license plates, they will point out the road or path that Paul rode that night. Well Paul certainly had some horse if he did all that traveling.

The next on the list is the battle of Bunker Hill, June 17, 1775.
The second Continental Congress was held in Philadelphia on May 10, 1775. They sent a petition to the King, but he promptly threw it into the garbage can, they still considered themselves as loyal subjects and were proud of it. The minute the King ignored the petition the Revolution was on.

Congress voted to raise twenty thousand men, they asked for volunteers but only a few responded to the call, then they got busy with a propaganda machine, as they have to in all wars, and commenced telling the poor people that this war was for their liberty. They did not have the Atlantic Charter

or the Four Freedoms, when in reality the Revolution was fought for a bunch of racketeers in the towns along the coast.

Nearly all the wealthy people were on the side of the English.

Nathan Hale was executed by the English, they claimed he was a spy, you will see his picture on postage stamps.

George Washington was placed at the head of the Colonial Army. Let's see just whomthis guy George was. They said when I was a kid that he owned up to cutting down a cherry tree with his hatchet to his father. He could not tell a lie, but I believe that George had as good a line of cuss words as any man at that time and could punish as much rum as any of them.

George's grandfather came over here in 1657. George comes from a highly educated family, he did not like society, but was an out door man looking over his plantation.

He got his first military experience as a Major in the French and Indian War. How he got to be a Major at the first jump, no one seems to know. The next year Braddock had a brush with the French and Indians at Fort Duquesne, Pennsylvania. I have been in the old block house, it is located on a point at Pittsburgh, and it is about the size of your milk house. You will find the picture in my album.

What the Indians did to the British Army was just too bad. Washington took over when Braddock was wounded and pulled the army out of the battle and saved part of them. After this war he married a rich widow named Martha Custis. He improved his property, hunted, fished and drank good liquor.

Now George was placed on the spot, when the Revolution broke out he had to choose one side or the other, if he took the side of the British and the colonies won, he stood to lose all his vast land holdings; he chose the winning side. He was a good General and made a good President.

The Colonies declared their independence July 4, 1776 at Philadelphia.

The English brought over seventeen thousand Hessians from Germany and the British had about eleven thousand American prisoners locked in the holds of ships along the coast. They all died through starvation or disease. See if you can find this in your modern school history.

The Colonial troops were a ragged bunch of undisciplined troops, some of them quit and I dont blame them, for no matter how good they were, they could never become officers, as the officers had to come from the colonial aristocracy. The troops wore buck skin or home spun clothes, but they were good shots. Washington took twenty-four hundred picked troops, crossed the Delaware and surprised the drunken Hessians and returned with one thousand prisoners, he lost only four men.

The winter of 1777 and 1778 was the worst winter of the Revolution, the American Army wintered at Valley Forge, outside of Philadelphia and the English inside, the Colonials suffered from cold and hunger, I have two ancestors who are still there, they froze to death and there were a great many more.

The histories teach us that the Colonial troops bought produce from the farmers to the west, well, to tell the truth, there was not money enough among the colonial troops to start a crap game.

This is the story handed down to me by my mother: These two men who are still there, were on her side of the family. The farmers to the west took their produce to the English in Philadelphia, they had money and goods that the farmer needed; the Colonial troops would lay in wait for them, take the horses and loads, if there was any objection on the part of the owner he was promptly

filled with lead and the good and the horses taken to their own camp. They would shoot the horse, eat the meat and use the hide to keep warm.

In 1778, through the influence of Benjamin Franklin, the French government recognized the independence of the colonies and sent a large fleet to help us out; now this is where Molly Pitcher comes into the picture.
At the battle of Monmouth, June 28th, 1778, her husband, an artillery man was shot and killed while firing his cannon. Molly at that time had just brought a bucket of water for her husband, as he fell she promptly took his place and continued the battle; she was awarded a sargeant's pay for life by Congress.

In 1778, the Tories and Indians under Brant and Butler committed some of the worst deeds of the Revolution; they committed the massacre at Wyoming and Little Meadows. Col. Hartley was sent against them and as I stated before destroyed the town where you live, also Queen Esther's town and Tioga Point. General Sullivan came up the Susquehanna and General Clinton came down the Susquehanna and joined forces at Tioga Point. Upon the arrival of Sullivan's army at Tioga Point they found an old Indian woman who had been overlooked by the retreating Indians, Sullivan ordered the best of care to be tendered her.

Col. Proctor of Sullivan's Army obtained a warrant from the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania to hold a movable lodge of Free Masons during their stay in Tioga. They had about five thousand five hundred men in all, two thousand pack horses and several hundred boats. Imagine two thousand horses pastured on the flats opposite Mr. Page's house at Greens Landing on Queen Esthers flats.

Joseph Brant was a Mohawk Indian, he had a sister who kept house for Sir William Johnson, the British Representative among the Indians. Brant was a member of the Masonic order.
They sent part of the men against the Indians at Lowman, N.Y. and fought the battle on Mr. Abner Wright's farm, not on the hill where the monument is, but down on a knoll west of the monument. By the way, on his place are buried four Revolutionary soldiers by the name of Baldwin. The losses were slight on both sides. The Indians broke and ran.

A division is fifteen thousand men and rates a general; a regiment is eighteen hundred men and rates a colonel; a company is one hundred fifty men and rates a captain. Just observe the markers in memory of the officers, all from a captain up. There were no privates in Sullivan's Army, according to historians; see if you can find a marker in memory of the men who cut the trees, pulled the stumps, cultivated the land and supported this army. No, there are none there. Sullivan destroyed the crops and continued on through the central part of New York State, destroying every village he came to, and all the Indians crops; on his return, at Horseheads N.Y. he found that a great many of his horses were worn out and had to be shot, the settlers gave this town the name of Horseheads on account of so many heads.
When Sullivan reported the trip, he said there was not an Indian left in the whole country, but a year later Butler, Brant and Corn Planter collected about fifteen hundred Indians at Tioga Point and followed up the Susquehanna River and was joined by Sir John Johnson and his Tory troops, they laid waste to Schoharie and the whole of the Mohawk Valley. Just prior to the outbreak of the Revolution, the Connecticut settlers withdrew to Wyoming and the Tories moved north to Tioga.

It doesn't seem possible that a white man of your own color and blood would

stand by and see the Indians scalp the women and children, but this is what happened to the white settlers who were trying to make a home for themselves, and a better world for you and I to live in.
See if you run across this in your late school history.
Some historians claim that Johnson did all in his power to stop it, well put that down as a lie, as this man Sir John Johnson had no more feeling or respect for the poor white settlers than he did for a rattle snake.

The attack on New Haven July 5, 1779 , the English had 3000 men under the command of General Tryon, he promised the people that surrendered all the protection they asked for but when they got possession of the town they took watches, went through the houses, stole the food, raped the women, shot the men folk. They stabbed Rev. Dr. Dagget while he was a prisoner, cut the tongue out of another then burned the homes of the balance.

On your way to Wellsburg from Lowman, on your left at the canal, you will notice a place that was dug out when they dug the canal; it was what they called a turning basin, the same as the one at the back of our old home, a place large enough to turn a canal boat in. When they dug this basin, they dug up the bones of the British and Indians. The bones were taken north, same side of the canal, one half mile and buried. There is a marker for them.
Look in my album for the picture.

On October 19, 1781, Cornwallis surrendered to Washington and the French at Yorktown, this about wound up this little trouble with England for the time being. The officers were given a year's pay; the common soldier who did all the fighting and suffered all the hardships, got a big vote of thanks and walked home, some of them barefoot.
A great many of Sullivan's and Clinton s men came back to this country and settled.
There are three hundred Revolutionary soldiers buried in Bradford county.

We became a nation in 1788, when our Constitution was adopetd, this is not the first of our kind of civilization, back in 1639, the State of Connecticut adopted a written State Constitution. Just a word on Connecticut about this date. - The first school in the United States was started in New Haven on Dec. 25th, 1641 Ezekiel Cheevers was the teacher.
Also the records of 1660 show that Jacobeth Murline and Sarah Tuttle were fined twenty shillings each for having their arms around each other, while sitting on a chest in broad daylight. Just think if we had this same law today and it was enforced, we could pay off the National Debt in two years.
All people were compelled to go to church or stand a heavy fine.
Harvard College was started in Cambridge, Mass. in 1636. They asked everyone to put in a peck of wheat, or its equivalent, to help pay the tuition of the poor students.

When we became a nation, we were as a rule, a nation of farmers, no paupers. This class comes from factories. The Constitution was written by a bunch of wealthy men, not a member of the C. I. O. or the A. F. of L. in the building. They made it in their interest, not in the interest of the people. It did not protect the rights of the people anymore than it does today, and they had laws for the rich and laws for the poor as they have today.
They said that the poor man did not respect the government, they were right he never had a government; they say you have got the ballot, well we have, but all the people in America can vote for a certain law, and one man on the Supreme

Court can declare it unconstitutional. The bunch of aristocrats that framed the Constitution got so crooked that they had to nail on the first ten amendments, called the Bill of Rights. We holler about dictators, we have them here. In 1932 when this President took office, a very few people had any hopes of this country surviving, we did not have a man who even had a suggestion. Both branches of Congress sat like a lot of dummies and waited until this man offered a solution then every one of them hollered "yes" to everything he said. Then he started to borrow money, and we entered on a long drunk and we have not sobered up yet. When we do get sober we will wake up to the fact that labor will have to dig down and create the value to pay off this debt. Then it will be our headache.

At the time of the Revolution and before, they had all the wild game in the markets, buffalo, deer, bear, geese, turkey and all the small game all at the same price of beef or pork. Indian and rye meal were common in those days but white flour was imported. Tea, coffee and chocolate came from England. I am going to give you some idea of what a few of the goods cost at Hollenbeck's store in Athens in 1787.

This is in shillings and pounds on some of the goods. A shilling at that time was worth twelve cents. A pound was $2.50. The present value of the shilling is twenty cents and its regular par value is twenty-four cents.

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Beans, per bushel | 8 shillings | | | | | |
| Broadcloth, per yard | 28 shillings | | | | | |
| Butter, per pound | 1 shilling | | | | | |
| French calico, per yard | 8 " | | | | | |
| Cider, per quart | 12 " | | | | | |
| Cow | | 5 pounds | | | | |
| Yearling Bull | | 2 " | | | | |
| Deer skins, dressed | 24 " | | | | | |
| 1 Heifer | | 4 " | | | | |
| Indian meal, per bu. | 4 " | | | | | |
| Irish Linen, per yd. | 4 " | | | | | |
| Razors, each | 2 " | | | | | |
| Rum, per gal. | 12 " | | | Otter | 24 | " |
| Salt, per bu. | 28 " | | | Panther | 8 | " |
| Shad, about 4¢ each | | | | Raccoon | 5 | " |
| Shoes, per pair | 18 " | | | Wildcat | 8 | " |
| Shingles, per 1000 | 30 " | | | Wolf | 6 | " |
| Shot, per lb. 30¢ | | | | | | |
| Snuff, per lb. | 6 " | | | | | |
| Sugar, per lb. | 1 " | | | | | |
| Maple sugar, per lb. 15¢ | | | | | | |
| Tea, per lb. | 7 " | | | | | |
| Thread, per skein 3¢ | | | | | | |
| Tobacco, per lb. plug | 2 " | | | | | |
| Tobacco, leaf, per lb. 15¢ | | | | | | |
| Toddy, per bowl 15¢ | | | | | | |
| Venison, per lb. | 1 " | | | | | |
| Bear skins, 16 to | 20 " | | | | | |
| Beaver | 22 " | | | | | |
| Calf | 5 " | | | | | |
| Elk | 16 " | | | | | |
| Fox | 8 " | | | | | |
| Mink | 4 " | | | | | |
| Muskrat | 1 " | | | | | |

Let me explain a little about the land. The explorers found a piece of land and would claim it in the name of the flag which they represented, then the nations fought with each other, as they are doing today and might is right.
The King would then grant a section to a person who had done something for the flag, such as murdering several thousand natives, or a person with good family connections. The man who got the grant would sell to a land company, and they would sell to the settlers through land agents and these land agents were about as crooked a bunch as ever lived, they are bad enough today, but only a whisper of what they were in the early days.

In 1723 a bunch of German emigrants passed down the Susquehanna River, driven out of New York State by the English and the Mohawk Indians, In 1768 there was an Irish family living at Sheshequin, he was an agent for a trading company.

The rulers in France ground the common people down to poverty and they revolted, in 1790 to 1798, and in 1793 they cut off the head of Louis the King. The next year Queen Marie Antoinette got the same axe. The wealthy people left France, who could get out with a whole neck, some of them went to the Isle of Haiti. They were driven out of there by the blacks, a few came to Asylum, Pa. They got skinned good and plenty by the land agents, but they did pick out a good piece of land along the Susquehanna River, they built a large house for the Queen, but she got the axe before she got her boat tickets.

They were the same as the English, they expected to enslave the Indian and the poor white man, but it just would not work. After things got settled in France, the majority went back, a few remained here and became useful citizens.

The land agent would sell to the settlers for what they could get out of it. Usually the land in the valleys would sell for one dollar to a dollar twenty-five per acre, the hill land would sell for twelve to twenty-five cents per acre.

In 1786 they surveyed the state line, prior to this it was on Mr. Hoover's north line and runs south of Spanish Hill.
Col. Arthur Irwin bought thirteen hundred acres of land and sold to the first settlers in your immediate vicinity. His agent was Daniel McDuffee, who was born in Antrium, Ulster County, Ireland February 18, 1752, he married Dorothy Laddie, three children were born to them. One of the children in 1782 married Frances Tyler, the family came to America in 1786 and settled in Bucks Co., where Daniel, the fourth child was born. Daniel bought several pieces of land, he bought from the foot of the hill straight through to the state line on the west side of the Chemung River and also a large tract east of the Chemung River. Mary McDuffee is one of the few living on the original land purchase.

Daniel clerked in Hollenbeck's store and was an agent for Irvin, he had a log cabin where Dr. Congdon is now. Irwin was a Pennsylvania man, he stopped at Daniel's house one night on his way south from Elmira, where he had another large tract of land. Daniel was playing his flute, as he was known as a great musician, as well as an expert weaver. Mrs. McDuffee was sitting in the door way sewing, she dropped her thimble and as she leaned over to pick it up, someone fired a shot over her head and killed Colonel Irwin. This was June 7, 1791. It was thought at that time that it was done by a person from the Connecticut claim, or a squatter.

Another family living on the original land purchase is the Tozer family. The first was Colonel Julius Tozer, born in Montesville, Connecticut, January 16, 1764. He came to this section and settled near the cove on the Susquehanna River, just north of the Athens High School in 1794. In 1800 he bought 150 acres of land at the west end of the bridge that bears his name.
Now as a matter of record, taken from the commissioner's office at Towanda, this is the only record they have.

The present bridge built in 1894, rebuilt span raised and new abutment in 1919. Dimensions 609 by 18 ft., kind of floor, wood block; tarvia treatment in 1922; painted in 1908.

Colonel Tozer was a drummer boy in the Revolution; was at Yorktown when Cornwallis surrendered, also in the war of 1812. His sons, Guy, Albert and Jules M. bought five acres just north of the west end of the bridge in 1820. They bought the right of way for the mill race from William Scott.
They dug the mill race, built the dam and started a saw mill in 1832. They worked the lumber for the bridge. This bridge was built by Bottling in 1836. They sold to Richard Shoemaker on March 31, 1836, who added the grist mill, consisting of six - forty-eight inch millstones, operated it until September 19, 1838. They sold it to C. N. Shipman, he operated it until 1867. He sells one third to Gates and Co., two-thirds to D. A. Rounds and Hiram Bliss, Bliss sells his share to D. A. Rounds and Z. Hicks, who added a door and blind factory. All parties sold out to Levi Westbrook in 1868, who ran it until 1873, when it burned down, set on fire by Dan Dell and his brother. They got careless with matches and accidentally dropped one in the dry shavings, the loss was ten thousand dollars.
Tozer sells to Etna Arnold on Nov. 3, 1882, whose heirs, James Suffern and Eliza Hullett sell to Si Babcock, who sells to Sid Loomis and Sid sells to the Elsbrees.

There are one hundred and fifty varieties of wheat. It is the only grain grown with gluten in the right proportion and quantity to make light bread. Poor graham flour is wheat bran mixed with inferior flour. In Russia they have developed a grass that produces wheat heads instead of timothy heads and has to be sown only every five years. Flour was originally hand ground with mortar and pestle, then a rounded stone working around in a circular hollow stone.

Let's get a little dope on this millstone. The millstones were used in Europe a great many years ago. They were a quartz, came from the department of Paris and called French burs. A forty-eight inch solid stone from France costs three hundred dollars; a stone from France made from several pieces, enclosed in a band of iron was one hundred and fifty dollars; the smaller ones in Europe twenty-four inch, were operated by hand from the power derived from windmills. The larger ones were driven by water power, this was had by throwing a dam across the river, creating a pool. This was fed to the mill through a race or sluice. The old dam builders were compelled to leave an opening for the rafts going down the river. The roller process was introduced in this country in 1870. It took a good man two weeks to sharpen one of these stones. There are some of the tools in my collection.

This stone in front of your house was found by Joe and myself in 1939 down at the old mill site, in the bottom of the race. As soon as we discovered it, we started to the barn for horse power, and ran across the hired man who was hauling out manure. Then Joe took over, he ordered the man to unhitch and go down and haul up the stone; the hired man objected and I called his attention to the fact that, in the interests of all concerned, he had better do as he was told, and forget about the manure spreader.

The stone was covered with dirty clay, and was hauled to the driveway, and your mother and grandmother ordered it taken off the place, but after Joe finished his oration, they were glad to be allowed to remain on the farm.

I will give you the yield of wheat per acre of the different countries- Denmark, forty-one bushel; England, thirty-two bushel; U. S., fourteen bushel; Canada, seventeen bushel; Australia, thirteen bushel; Argentina, eleven bushel; and Russia, ten bushel. This yield has been tripled in Russia in late years.

One hundred pounds of silver hull buckwheat goes through the cleaner or scouring process, then through the shucker, then to the stone which makes one-hundred fifty revolutions per minute. This will make fifty pounds of good flour and twenty pounds of middling, which is between the flour and the hull. You leave in about one tenth of middlings to make the pancakes brown. Thirty pounds is hulls and is waste. The flour passes from the stone through a bolter, or silk sieve. One hundred pounds of dry wheat goes through the cleaner and scouring process, then to the stone, then to the bolter or silk sieve; they get seventy two pounds of flour, twelve pounds of shorts between the hull and flour and sixteen pounds of bran. The grain travels a distance of seven hundred feet from the stone to the flour sack, while grinding wheat, the stones make two hundred revolutions per minute.

This stone came from Millstone Creek, or on the mountain above the creek just below Powell, Pa. It is the bottom stone which is stationary. The top stone is suspended by a U iron, and has to be adjusted just right. If it is too close it will burn the flour. The grain goes down through the center and when it gets to the outer edge of the stone, it is flour. Nearly all the cog wheels in the old mills were made from apple tree wood.

Colonel Tozer gave a plot of ground for a cemetery in 1830, seventy-five by by one hundred feet. There is a deed for it, but it has been lost. It is not recorded. The Colonel was buried there, but removed to Tioga Point later on. When I came back from Panama in 1938, I took upon myself, the job of cleaning out this old cemetery. It has cost me fifty dollars in money and two hundred hours of my own labor. Seven large truck loads of rubbish was hauled away by your father's truck and hired man. I hope one of you kids will keep this clean when I pass out of life's picture. You cant miss it. It is just below your house. In the cemetery you will notice a tombstone artistically carved, bearing the name of Theresa Ryan, born in Dublin, Ireland, died April 29, 1832, age two years and six months. I have planted several wild white roses at the foot of her grave and eventually I will get one to live. I have every reason to believe that it was her father who carved the stones in the old cemetery at that period and in several of the other cemeteries in this section. He at one time lived on the Mill Patch, and was known as a stone cutter.

Tozer's bridge was first called the farmers bridge. Money and labor furnished by the farmers. It was a toll bridge, as all bridges were at that time. It was taken out by the flood of 1865. Another bridge was built by the farmers Westbrook, Elsbree, Hireene, Herrick and a number of others and this was also a toll bridge.

Back to the old cemetery: These tombstones were taken from the river bed below Mr. Minard's, along the narrows. Mary McDuffee's ancestors have the same style stone. They are buried in the old Athens cemetery. Three Civil War veterans were buried there, I can identify only one, and that is Miles Jacklin, a relative of the boys you are acquainted with at Wilawanna. Frank and Bill Canfield's father and mother and sister, and Bill Scott's wife are buried here, and a few of the Tozers. Some claim that this was an Indian burying ground, but it was not. Their burying ground is where your north silo is now.

The Bridge Company issued bridge tickets, good for one or two horses, or one person or more. This bridge had a sign up, I can remember it; the sign was over the entrance and read: "Twenty-five dollars for driving faster than

a walk." We had a horse that could read. It took him plenty of time to get across. The fare was twenty-five cents for a team, fifteen cents for a single horse and ten cents to walk.

After the two bridges went out, the people had to ford the river if it were not too high, and when it was too high they had to use the bridge at the Waverly narrows. The old ford road is still there, the main body of the river was on the west side. There was only a small gravel bar there when I was a boy, and no trees as it is today. The ford was to your left going down the ford road. At the top of the rifts, you certainly got a thrill out of it, for on a dark night there was no light of any kind; the best way was to let the horse dope it out, they could find their way better than you could.

Colonel Tozer sold his farm at the end of the bridge to Ransom Parshall, and he sold to Manson Elsbree; then Elsbree sold to Jim Parks and from Parks to the present owner, Mr. Forrest.

Tim Hireen was born in Ireland in 1812 and came to this country and built a log house back from the Reagan's home on the hill; then he bought a hundred and fifty acres from Daniel McDuffee, one hundred and fifty acres from Watkins and fifty-five from Hoover who got it from the land agent. This was back on the hill. Tim Hireen , Bill's father and Bill Scott were contractors together; they built the railroad and the retaining wall through the narrows west of Waverly for the Erie Railroad Company, coming west out of Waverly on the old road between the two railroads or the present river road to the white bridge. As you are at the foot of the little hill you notice on your left a bank running nearly to the river; it was intended to run the railroad across the river at this point and across again to the west side south of Chemung, but they put the road along the mountain instead. In going north on Shepherd Street in Ellistown you will note south of the D. L. & W. tracks an embankment running east and west, this was the original road bed of the Erie, built around 1845, but upon the new survey of the road, this road bed was abandoned, the imprint of the ties can be seen at the present time. It was known by the old settlers as the pile railroad, that is in a great many places it was the intention of the constructing engineers to drive piling in place of an embankment, through swamps and low places.

Tim and Bill built one mile of track at Red Mill cut, also the road and retaining wall through the mountain south of Wellsburg, this is the time the railroad went in the hands of receivers.

This farm of Hireen's was first taken up by Ethan Allen; the state line was his north line and was known as the McClan line.
This house was built in 1840, Whittier worked the farm also Mr. Northrup, who lived in a house just north of Job Tozer's place. He paid eleven hundred dollars rent per year for the farm.

This railroad was completed through Waverly in 1849, the D. L. & W. came through here in 1882.

THE IRISH FARM TENANT

He would lead the rosary through lent
Go to confession and seem to repent-
With holy water he sprinkled each horse
And starve the cows without remorse.
He did not seem to mind that
His own part of cattle was nice and fat
Sell undivided grain away many miles
Giving the landlord little with honest smiles.

Making complaint the harvest was poor
While the grainery was full to the door,
When the butter was sold in the fall
He made believe one ton was all,
But to private customers ten hundred he sold
And kept that money, he was getting bold.
His sins could be pardoned easy and well
So he had no fear of eternal hell.
From the church with mass, his funeral began
In the grave they put him, an honest man.

Bill Hireen - 1942

The old settlers found wild plums, choke cherries, black cherries, crab-apples, wild grapes and different berries.

One of the oldest settlers in Chemung Co., N.Y. was David Bosworth, who came from New Milford, Connecticut in 1782. He built a log house near a spring where the Erie Railroad is now, right opposite the little hill after leaving Chemung on Route 17, going west; his father William Bosworth, came after him and was the first white settler to die in this section.
David settled on a claim on your right as you pass through the pine woods on your way to Wilawanna. He died in 1808. David was born in Connecticut in 1775 and in 1787, only twelve years old, walked all the way alone from Milford, Connecticut to the little log cabin in the wilderness, near what is now Chemung; he swam the Hudson River and the only white person he saw was a trader where Binghamton is now. He came down the Susquehanna River with this trader and the trader showed him an Indian trail, near what is now Ellistown. He slept in hollow logs and in brush piles, but kept a fire going at night to protect himself against wild animals. at that time the wilderness was full of wolves, bear, wildcat, panther and a few Indians. He lived on wild berries, roots and probably killed a rabbit or wild turkey with his bow and arrow, and roasted them on a fire built with flint.

Compare this boy and what he went through with any of you four. Suppose your father tells you to go out and close the hen coop door after dark; the coop is forty feet from the house. The first thing you do is to pass the buck, then to talk yourself out of it; when all excuses fail, you get the flashlight and any defensive weapon at hand, get both dogs, have your mother hold the electric light so it will shine through the kitchen window on the coop, get one of the hired men to stand on the back steps and you are all set to run. You make the trip to the coop and return in just nothing flat. The other boy is the type who made this country and you are the type that is enjoying it.

Johnnie Bosworth's son was the first school teacher in the old Scott school # 4, which stood on the east side of the road between you and Jule Tozer. His descendants are living at Lowman, N.Y. at the present time.

The Westbrook family was one of the early settlers in this section. Colonel Levi Westbrook came to this section in 1835 from Westbrookville, N.Y. He bought around four hundred and fifty acres, the most of it was covered with yellow pine; he cleared it all but a patch of pin oak below the house. This land is what they called the Prevost plantation in the early days. The present house was built in 1848, the first house was of logs; he also built a creamery and did a large business. His brother Colonel Abraham Westbrook, lived at Tozer's bridge for some time, this is the one who bought the mill from Levi Westbrook. This Abraham Westbrook was the father of Margaret, Charlotte, William and Jake; they divided the farm in 1873, at the death of their father. Jake married Clara Ovenshire, there was one daughter, Florence, whom you know today.

He built a large house and barn on Lockhart Street as you are about to enter the borough of Sayre from the west. They had a large milk route, Bill took care of that; he was very quiet and conservative, but Jake was very liberal minded and would discuss any subject, he probably was the most respected man in the valley.

Bill was the greatest hay loader in this section, his loads would make your loads look like you was using only one horse. Jake took a load of straw that Bill had loaded to Waverly, and when he was going down Broad Street, a man bet him a quarter that he could not turn around on Broad Street. Jake threw down his quarter and the bet was on, when Jake was square across Broad Street with his load of straw, the end of his binding pole scraped the letters on the bank window and the mules heads were in the doorway of the store opposite the bank. He made the complete turn, collected his bet and went on his way. Jake certainly knew his mules.

The Westbrooks always grew a large amount of husking corn, as high as two hundred acres; it was always the white dent corn. I can remember seeing thirty men planting corn with hoes. Jake died in April 1940 at the age of ninety six, I was one of the pall bearers.

The toll house for the old bridge was on the west side on the south; Townsend Knowles was a gate keeper for a long time as well as Mr. Mead. Mellwall ran a shoe repair shop and small store on the north side of the approach. Due west from the approach, near Bob Forrest's house was what they called the bee hive, it contained twelve apartments; it was there when Manson Elsbree bought from Parshall. He tore it down and used part of it to build a barn where Mr. Forrest's barn is now. It burned down and the present barn was built by Dora Parks in 1894.

The farm down where Mr. Minard lives was known as the Daniel McDuffee farm; he bought it from Col. Irwin and this included nearly all of the side hills. Coming west on the bridge on your right, across the little creek was what they called the mill patch, it contained at one time, fourteen houses besides a combination mill. Continuing on up the road on your right is a little house, bought from the Tozers by Charles Hagt in 1864. Just before you got to this little house, there was a road leading to the mill patch, with a bridge across the creek. Near this creek was where one of the greatest bull fights took place in this section. Manson Elsbree had a large Durham bull, also a large Jersey bull, they got into a fight. They fought each other for hours, tore down the willows along the creek and when they finally got them separated, the Durham bull was dead and the Jersey bull died that night. The meat from them could not be used on account of being so torn and bruised, it was unfit for beef. Now this is some bull story, but you have to accept it as I got it from an eye witness.

North of the little cemetery along the road was a large horse barn, then the old blacksmith shop near the creek, this land was no doubt donated by both farms in order to have a blacksmith shop in this locality. Charles Hagt seems to be the first blacksmith, then Jim McArdle from Ridgebury, who came down here in the early sixties, then Joe Harrington was the last. I can remember that well. The little house on the west side where your Uncle Joe lived at the time of the sixty-five flood, the water was three inches deep on the floor, the maple tree in front was two and one half inches in diameter and now it is twenty-four inches.

Between your place and the mile lane was the Shoemaker place, the house

had a long wood shed always facing the south or east, and many a pleasant afternoon I have spent playing with a two and one half pound double bitted axe on gnarly elm knots.
North of that was a large orchard, the house was bought by Jule Tozer and moved to its present location. A large barn, long stock shed, calf pens and hog pens were on the east side of the road, part way to the Tozer line.
Right opposite this Shoemaker house was the Scott school #4. Land was donated by William Scott, as long as it was used for school purposes, and north of that was another large orchard; this school was built by Sonny Tozer's grand father, the kid who is in the Philippines with a khaki uniform on.

The first school house stood next to the road, same side, right next to the Tozer line, and was known as the slab school, built from the slabs of the Tozer mill; the seats were slab, turned bark down and four pegs put in, the same as your present milking stool; they were long and would hold four or five people. A fire place was built in the school and the scholars had to cut and haul their own wood, or freeze.
This school was used until the new one was built, if the scholars had to cut and haul their own wood today, this nation would be illiterate in one generation. Johnnie Bosworth, the first teacher in the new school, received twelve dollars per month. six days per week; this was before the teachers organized themselves into a union. Johnny certainly earned his twelve bucks as some of the scholars were twenty years old and good and husky.
Boys and girls were all corn fed.

The lady teachers at that time got seventy-five cents per week and board. They boarded around a week at a time with the parents,.
Johnny was plenty tough, he had the authority to use anything on the scholar to maintain law and order; he used everything except poison gas, and this was not known until the English used it on the boars at Lady Smith, South Africa in 1902.

They did not give out cute little report cards to show their grandmothers, the only marks they got was across their backs. It was not necessary to have athletic games to get up an appetite. After they went home, milked the cows, split wood by lantern light, they were ready for their sow belly and corn bread. They did not learn a great deal in school in those days, and in my day I managed to get into the fourth reader, but what little I did get I was able to use all my life.

There is no question but what the American youth is the smartest of them all, but what they know doesn't seem to do them a great deal of good, regardless of the ballyhoo of our public schools. In 1790 a law was passed compelling the children to be taught, the poor was gratis and they were known as the pay and the pauper. This was one of the rotten phases we inherited from the English.

Bill Hireen's sister Cecelia, was the best teacher I ever went to. She had a way that all scholars liked and respected, but she had a sister who taught at certain times and she ruled by brute force; when she opened the door in the morning the thermometer dropped thirty degrees.

Hugh McDuffee, Mary's father and Mary's Aunt Emma taught here before my time. Your Aunt Jo Markham taught here when your father and Uncle Joe went there to school and, according to their tale of woe, she was a very close relative of Johnnie Bosworth. Afterwards in order to preserve the white race they placed the children under the same protection as the little cotton tail rabbit is today, that is, they put a closed season on them, and no teacher is allowed to lay hands on a pupil only in self defense.

About the only improvement I can notice in the modern school is the improvement in salaries of the teachers, this was brought about by the teachers

organizing, the same as the coal miners.

I have seen the youth from every land and the American youth is the most capable of them all; that is, the boys and girls can and will do any kind of work, but when it comes to voting or taking any interest or responsibility in government, they are the dumbest of them all.

You claim to be one hundred per cent American and you brag about your liberty. Let me give you my idea of Americanism:- It is not leading parades, waving flags or celebrating the Fourth of July; Americanism is a loftier thought, a nobler thought, finer than all of this. It is the soul of the people of this great nation, the soul of all the people living in harmony and at peace with one another. A Democracy is not safe without it is an itelligent Democracy. That is the reason the present government is on its way out; what the next government will be depends on the American youth, and remember, any government is a true expression of its people. If we have a rotten government in Washington, then we must be rotten ourselves, or disinterested.

We have schools, libraries, churches and jails scattered over this land, and we still have poverty, crime, illiteracy and billions of unpaid debts.

In glancing over the Constitution of the United States, i find Article XIX, 1920, giving the women a right to vote. Did it do any good? No, it just added to the total votes cast. Prior to this, the American woman was placed on the highest pedestal of them all, and when they got their ballot, they defied three governments and the Pope of Rome in regard to dress. They began immediately leaving off part of their clothes, cutting off what little they had left on, double the outlay for red lead and face lotion, put their feet on the bar room rail and started the discussion of divorce and alimony.

Now this of course does not mean all of the women, but the styles do change. They had the advantage of them all, she can and will do any kind of work, tinker a tractor and operate it, work on the farm or in the factory, leave her work and go into the kitchen and get a good meal, then take two minutes before a looking glass. a bucket of red lead, a little face oil and appear on the ball room floor looking like a million dollars. No other woman on earth can accompolish this.

Some day there will appear a person whom the youth will follow and listen to, both boys and girls, and they will be on their way to make this country a Christian Democracy, and when they pass by my house I am going to fall in line; it will be you young people who will go along with evolution and make the change, it will not be us old fogies.

This is a little deep for you, but some day you will study it and you might just as well start to read it now. Back in 1917 the old Russian government rotted out. Lenin Trotsky and Stalin and a few others, among them were four women; they had an underground meeting in Paris and made blueprints for a new government in Russia. No one can judge Russia today without knowing something of the old Czar, his ministers and the church.

Just to give you an idea of old Russia, Captain John Smith, not the one in Virginia, but a British sea captain, told me that he was in the port of Odessa and saw one of the worst sights he ever saw; they had an entertainment for royalty; they herded hundreds of the poor Russians in a field, then rode them down with Don Cossacks.

You often read of the Russian Cossacks; let me explain a little about them, they are a cross of the Tartar, Slav and Polish and in the Tartar language means freeman. Four centuries ago, these people inhabited the country north of Moscow, they were driven out of there by the high taxes, serfdom and compulsory military service. They settled on land between the Caspian and Black Seas on the Don, Kuban and Terck Rivers, this land was over run

with wild horses, feather grass and unruly Nomad tribes. The land was fertile and would grow all kinds of fruit and vegetables. They were compelled to carry their guns with them while in the field at work, the same as our frontiersman did when this country was settled.

They developed the little Asiatic ponies, they were not as large as Queenie and Tony, your two ponies, but they had long hair and were the hardiest animal known and still are. These people were great horse as well as cattle breeders, and were also thrifty and as a rule honest.
They became known as the most daring horsemen on earth and they still are.

The Moscow government allowed them to stay there as long as they were willing to fight for the Moscow government. They also fought for the Polish kings, they were also exempted from taxes of all kinds and had their own government.

It is this outfit that was the greatest help in the defeat of the Germans at Stalingrad. These men served under Marshal Rokossovsky, who was only thirty six years old, probably one of the greatest generals ever known for his age. He pulled so much fast stuff behind the German lines that they dont know yet how he did it. He afterwards commanded the Russian Army in Poland, consisting of fifty-five Generals and seven hundred fifty thousand men. The world has been wondering how it was that these Cossacks could carry food for their horses and themselves as well as ammunition and stand rigid winters of Central Russia.

This was the attitude of the ruling power of Russia towards the poor people, while I am here I want to record that my father was in the Crimean War and was at the siege of Sevastopol in 1854. Russia was on one side and the English, French and Turks on the other.

After World War I and the Revolution, our government loaned Kerneski one hundred and eighty million to fight the Russian people, now we want these people to pay for the ammunition that was used to slaughter thousands of them. I dont think we will ever get it, anymore than we paid England for their money and supplies that she loaned the Southern States to carry on the Civil War.

To give you an idea of the havoc wrought by the German Armies in the invasion of Russia in World War II, the Germans burned or destroyed 1710 towns and cities, burned or destroyed 70,000 villages, burned or destroyed 6,000,000 buildings, left 25,000,000 homeless, destroyed 31,858 industrial enterprises which employed 4,000,000 people, sacked and looted 98,000 Collective farms. They slaughtered or shipped to Germany 7,000,000 horses, 17,000,000 cattle and 10,000,000 pigs and sheep. The damage in dollars and cents, or rubles cannot be reckoned, so dont blame the Russians if they take everything out of Germany that can be moved.

These three men, Lenin, Trotsky and Stalin, who was the builder and the greatest builder on earth; they took one hundred eighty million people, seventy-eight nationalities, eighty-five per cent illiterate. They had been taught to fight each other for centuries; they wove this backward mass of humanity into a solid unit that has out-fought and out generaled the greatest military machine ever collected. Every one of the great generals rose from poor boys, from Stalin on down. How did they do it? It was not the church, for the Americans and English spent millions telling the world that they destroyed the church. It was not the educated people or their statesmen, as our churches and schools taught the pupils that these people were all shot by the Revolutionists.

In the early days they sent a commission to the United States, Great Britain, Belgium, Germany and France to study their school systems. They reported back, discussed the different systems and adopted the best.

They educated their youth along the lines of the blue prints of the new Russia and this is what put them in position that they are in today. The people of America and England are just as ignorant on the social and economic side of the Russian life as they were on the military side.

Now with all our smartness and resources, why cant we do something to teach the youth the meaning of the ballot? This is our expression of our wants in government. Abe Lincoln was one of our greatest presidents, among the things he said in his Gettysburg address on Nov. 19, 1863, was this: "And that government of the people, by the people, for the people shall not perish from the earth." This is what they get in Russia today. The first thing is to find out what is wrong, then educate to eliminate this wrong without bloodshed and the destruction of property.

World War III will be fought in the United States, not in Europe or Asia if we dont educate our youth, for the lousy dollar we give licenses to run juke joints, saloons, roadhouses and gambling devices, to start our youth on the road to ruin. I saw a gambling machine for little children; it was a candy machine and six little girls were putting in a penny and taking a chance, and no machine can be beat. I saw these same girls, only they were older, at the races in Miami, Mexico, Los Angeles and Hot Springs, nervous wrecks, smoking cigarettes by the pack and gambling their husband's money away. The politician gets money for this privilege, and it all helps to support our government.

What a great opportunity the churches have, with their sixty million dues-paying members to get together, or the republican or democrat party to come out and declare themselves for the rights of the people. Well if they dont, you American youth will. Now look back to what I said in regard to the inner government and that is the reason they dont.

Just a little advice when you grow up and do a little traveling; no matter what country or locality you visit, always accept things as you find them. They may be as near right as you are, and when you visit a place of worship, always remove your hat; you wont break your arm in doing it. Also remember that there has been millions of lives sacrificed so that these people may have this right to worship, and when you find people worshipping or in prayer, no matter what their creed, if they get the least bit of satisfaction or consolation and are not blocking traffic, you do all in your power to help them. You may have the same right and dont tell them you are an American; you dont have to tell them; they will know by your actions.

This is what the knowledge of voting is based on; go into any library, sit down for thirty minutes and you will notice that ninety-eight per cent of the books taken out are fiction; go into any news stand and you will find that ninety per cent of the literature sold is sex, superman, detective and funny books; then go home and turn on your radio and listen to the bally-hoo and propaganda that the tax payers are paying for. Go to our schools, find out what the greatest thing the older students are interested in, it is poolrooms, baseball, football and basketball. Is it any wonder that this country is in the shape that we are in today?

Now let's get back to the west side of the Chemung River. The mile land ran straight up to nearly the top of the hill, then due south forty rods, then due west down over the hill into Wilawanna. Right opposite the corner of your woods, northeast side, was a saw mill near the creek; the land was leased to Joseph E. Field and E. S. Hubbal, Sept. 21, 1873. About five acres of land was leased from Manson Elsbree for forty dollars per year. A little house stood near the road, the cellar is there yet, in 1886 Elsbree

bought out Hubbal, and Elsbree and Field did a good business sawing logs for the people of Ridgebury for a number of years. Cy Beers, Hugh's uncle, fired the boilers for a long time, one dollar per day for ten hours.

Your line ran to the foot of the hill; next was the old Dunnam place, now owned by Mr. Sidock; near the top of the hill, left side, was the old Jerry McCarty place. He was a stone cutter and cut stone for the D. L. & W. railroad bridge. Due north of the McCarty place was an old log house built by Reamer Ellis, a Civil War veteran; the old road was on the east side of the creek until you got to the Paddy O'Leary place, then it crossed to the west side.

The new road cuts out two bridges. Paddy O'Leary helped build the Johnny Cake dam and lived up there until 1865, then he bought one hundred acres and built a log house on the west side next to the hill; he bought this land from Sammy Harwick.

Going east across the creek on your right on a little knoll was Hurley school No. 5, this was a log house, originally; afterwards a frame building was put up. This is an old record found in my father's book; he was a school director and on December 11, 1874, visited Hurley School No. 5. taught by Miss L. Ribble. House in good order and good order maintained by the teacher. Eighteen scholars in attendance, age six to nineteen.
I remember going up there to the old spelling bees; I took no part in them. Nellie Murphy was the last to sit down, she is now Mrs. James Barry of Waverly.

On up the creek on your left was the John Hurley place, the buildings have all been torn down and the ground cleared up. When Nell was eight years old, her father sent her down to the blachsmith shop near your place with one of the oxen to be shod, she came down through the woods and swamps leading this ox and thought nothing of it.

On the main road on your right was the home of the O'Briens, they owned the gully where the old silver mine is located and this was known as Big Tim's Notch. When I was a kid, about like Bob, there was a large rattle snake den at the head of this notch, this was the last of the rattle snakes in this section. The O'Brien boys worked on the dam at Johnny Cake; the old homestead like the Murphys has disappeared.

Further on up the road on your left was the old Cornelius Hurley place. He was the father of John and Jerry Hurley. This land was bought from Sherwood in 1866; opposite this homestead is where Jerry Hurley lives. Cornelius also worked on the dam at one time, all of these people traded at my father's store on the canal.

Further on up, on your right was the old Babcock place, the father of Cyrus, Dana, Harry and Charles. Mr. Babcock made all the sledge and hammer handles for the old Kellogg Bridge Works at Athens, all made by hand. Nearly to the top of the hill is where the Smith homestead was located.

In the olden days the neighbors were all invited to a barn raising. If the farmer was prosperous he had a barrel of beer, if not he had a barrel of hard cider. I have seen one hundred good husky men at one of these barn raisings. This man Smith pulled a fast one on his neighbors, instead of beer or hard cider he had buttermilk, and they were known for three generations as the buttermilk Smiths.

Now back down on the creek to Paddy O'Leary's place, above you on your right, the first house was built by Uncle Tom Murphy, now owned by Mr. Bidock. Mr. Murphy had a large flagstone quarry and did a big business until concrete was used for sidewalks. Then on up the road to the old Bill Farr property, then the Reagens, then the Gregory's school No. 7; this is gone forever.

Now back on the creek, the next place above the O'Leary's at the bridge, on the left was where Remmer Ellis moved to from the hill, the road at that

time followed up the creek. The next was the Williams place, then the Michael McCardle place. He bought a large tract of land after he got through working on the canal. Michael had three sons - John, Francis and Jim, they were all well liked in this community. They cleared this wilderness and set out two large orchards, built a log house, then a frame house, but all is gone now. This Jim McCardle would haul a large load of pole wood with a team of oxen down to my father for one dollar. This is where I spent a pleasant forenoon swinging a two and one-half pound double bitted axe, or playing with a buck saw especially when the fishing was good in the creek or the rest of the kids were playing ball down in the meadow.

Above the McCardle place, where Joe Reagan lives now, was where John Splann, another man who cut down the forest, cleared the land and raised a good American family lived. Due south on the hill from your woods was the Cyrus Worford place, he bought fifty acres here and set the hill out to a peach orchard. Part of the top of the hill was set to grapes, plums and pears, but they did not pan out too well. Next to your line was a house and barn, there was a road running south to the other end of the place, then another house and barn, all gone now.

South west of our old home is Big Tim's Notch, it is where the silver mine is. Mr. Snyder had a hunch that there was silver in that mountain, he spent a good sum of money, but no silver, this was around 1885; it is on your right going up the gully. It was used as a place to make whiskey during early prohibition, so I am told by the grape vine route.

Your house stands on what was known as Lot 24 in the last land sale. Samuel French bought from Colonel Irwin, 343 acres in 1829. Owing to the dispute of land titles, it was not settled until 1839. At this date he sold to William Scott two hundred and forty-three acres; this is your home. He sold part to John Bentley; this is the back end on the side hill where the Dunham and McCarthy farms were. He sold the north side to Richard Shoemaker. Your house was built around 1840, as near as I can dope it out; it has been changed and altered several times, a large shed was at the back.

In the olden days they did not sell milk to the creameries, they made butter and on this farm raised perhaps seventy-five veal calves and about that many hogs, and on a large farm like this, they used the tread wheel or mill. This was just back of your dining room. On this place they used a two year old bull. The large wheel, probably twenty feet in diameter was on a slant and as the bull walked it turned this wheel. He kept on walking but never got anywhere. This wheel was geared to a large cog wheel that was connected with a large churn. On a smaller dairy farm, they used a dog, if you could find the dog, but where they had only a few cows, the daughter or hired girl did their stuff handling a large barrel churn.

The lot between the house and creek was the hog yard and back of your house was a large calf pen and north of your house, where I am handling rock, trying to raise a garden is where they had their garden, and directly across the road from the house was a tool and wagon shed.
North of this was a set of what they called wagon scales, used to weigh livestock and farm produce, Next to this stands a long barn, built in 1869.
At the back end was a long stock shed, north of this barn, same side of road was a large corn house and on the west side of the road where your granary is now, was the original log barn. Then the frame barn with the usual long stock shed facing the east. Later on, where your road gate is now, extending back to the milk house, was the entrance to a large horse barn, built partly from the timber of the old weigh lock below our old home, and when this was torn down, part of it was used in your new cow barn. in 1908.

When I was about eight years old, I can remember looking out our north window and seeing large herds of long horn steers in the fields back of your present cow barn, their horns were like the ones I have from Mexico, these cattle weighed around eight hundred pounds. They were bought in the west by the car load and shipped here to be butchered for beef, in a slaughter house on the west side of Spanish Hill.

Manson Elsbree was in partnership with Mr. Faulkner of Waverly in the meat market business, he then went into breeding horses for the races, and this is why the long horse barn was built. The horse business was not so hot. He had one fine stallion named Barney C. They were too slow for trotting horses, too small for draft horses and too homely for riding horses. He then went into the Jersey cattle business and had one of the prize herds of the county. He kept at times as many as ninety cattle, around sixty milkers, from the Jerseys to the Holsteins which you have now. At first they lost a great many through failure to pass the tuberculosis tests, at the same time there were a great many losses all over the state.

Where the mill stone is now is where the dug well was. Some of these wells were thirty feet deep, laid up with flat field stones. The water was taken out with a bucket on a rope, and this rope was connected with a windlass; this is where they got the old oaken bucket.

When the Europeans discovered America, they discovered several plants that they had never seen before, such as indian corn and tobacco. The potato was first discovered in the tropics, taken to Europe and from there to America. They also found the turkey, buffalo and llama; they also discovered we had no horses, cows, hogs, sheep, hens or chickens, cats or dogs, these were all brought from Europe. In September 1611, six ships came to Jamestown, Virginia, they brought three hundred people, one hundred and twelve cows, twenty goats, and two hundred hogs. In 1943 we had six million farms in the United States, one hundred sixty-nine thousand were in Pennsylvania. The largest produce farm in the world is located in Brighton, New Jersey, they are called the Seabrook Farms, twenty-five thousand acres, employing 3,500 people.

Now we will record the cattle that you read about in your farm papers.
The oldest breed known is the Kerry, they are from the cattle of Eire, they started in England and Scotland to develop the beef strain in the middle of the 18th century. Of course they were used for food as far back as man is known.
The Aberdeen Angus came from the county of Aberdeen, Scotland, the first in this country was in 1850.
The Devon came from the county of Devon, England. There are two strains; one for beef and the other for milk, they were brought to this country in 1800.
The Galloway breed came from the southern part of Scotland, brought here in 1870.
The Hereford came from the county of Hereford, England, brought to this country in 1817.
The Red Pole came from England, brought here in 1873.
The Short Horn came from York, England, they are the largest beef cattle known, brought to this country in 1783.
The Brahma came from Indai and are considered the sacred cattle of India, they came here in 1849, there are several strains of them, especially in the south.
The Africander was developed in Africa and are similar to the Brahma, they were first introduced in the United States on King's Ranch in Texas. We saw a great many of them when we visited King's Ranch in 1941.
I want to say something about this ranch, you have to have a pass to get on the ranch, and this is a hard matter.

There are only two Americans on the ranch, Mr. Taylor is the superintendent and he has an assistant. This ranch covers one million three hundred thousand acres. There are several Mexican villages on the ranch and these people look after the cattle. They have around one hundred thousand head at all times, we saw five thousand, fourteen months old in one drove that were being fattened for market. These Brahma cattle are free from the tick fever and will live on any kind of vegetation, and dont try to walk through the pasture, they will run you out, but they are very docile if you are on a cow pony.

They crossed the Brahma with the Durham and call this cross the Gertrudis cattle. Look in my album and see the picture of the little Gertrudis steer, four months old and weighing five hundred pounds.

Now the milking strain: A registered dairy animan is one that has met the requirements of registration laid down by the association for that particular breed. A grade cow is the result of a cross between a registered animal and a scrub or native animal.

The Ayrshire came from the county of Ayr, started here in the beginning of the eighteenth century, coming to the United States in 1822.

The Brown Swiss came from Switzerland, it has been bred there for centuries without a mixture of any other breeds.

Dutch Belted originated in the Netherlands about two centuries ago, came here in 1838.

Guernsey originated in the Channel Islands, near the coast of France, developed the latter part of the seventeenth century; they were known at the time as the Alderneys, coming here in 1830.

The Holstein Freisan was bred in the Netherlands and Germany, this breed is around two thousand years old, they were brought here in 1795.

The Jersey originated on one of the islands of Jersey, in the Channel Islands. In 1789 a law was passed prohibiting the importation of any other breed except for immediate slaughter, they came here in 1850.

They had in this country in 1932: Ayrshires, 317,000; Brown Swiss, 24,800; Guernseys, 3,709,000; Holsteins, 9,465,000; Jerseys, 9,961,000; there has been a great increase in the milking strain since this census was taken.

The farm just north of mile lane was owned by Albert Tozer and next above was Joel M. Tozer, son of Colonel Tozer; this land was settled in 1834. They built log houses as usual, the one at the upper place was just north of Job's barn, same side of the road. The west end of Jules' farm up at the foot of the hill, near the spring was a distillery, run by Albert and Joel. They sold good whiskey. This still was operated by Jason K. Wright. The Tozer brothers also ran a store in Athens. The mash was fed to the hogs. Whiskey sold for 50¢ per gallon. They sold as high as fifty gallons to one person and thought nothing of it.

In them days a preacher could liquor up and still draw his salary, but the people misused it and the government put on restrictions and a tax, but it has become the curse of the country, all under the heading of individual liberty and rights, and as long as the state or town gets the almighty dollar, it is O.K. with the majority of the citizens. From 1850, some states have attempted to regulate it and the prohibition party was organized in 1869.

In 1917, 18 and 19, the Constitution was amended to prohibit anything stronger than one-half of one percent. This was passed by forty-six states out of forty-eight. They closed the saloons in the United States and agitation was started in New York City by a politician by the name of Alfred Smith and a few others, and it soon spread over the land. The person who voted for the amendment was the first one to send his boy or girl down to the bootleggers to buy this poison.

Now this is where your sixty million dues-paying church members showed that they were asllep at the switch. It became a fad among the majority to make home brew out of anything that contained alcohol, and they bragged about it. People drank who never drank before, and the amendment turned out to be a farce. Still we are one hundred per cent Americans.
This is where our ignorance of the ballot and the science of government comes in. If the majority of the people in Switzerland had voted for this, and a few people started to agitate and openly violate it, they would have been promptly taken care of. They tried to control it from 1920 to 1933, then on April 7, 1933, they legalized the sale of what they called 3.2 beer and it was not long before the majority repealed the Volstead Law.

This record is taken from the old day book, still in the possession of the Tozer family: "This day, the 25th of May, it snowed like the devil. I worked on the road April 6, 1837, and this day we raised the barn. We raised the house Nov. 14, 1832." This refers to the house where Job lives now.
Athens Dec. 5, 1832, Mills started on Wednesday, this refers to the mill down on the race. This day, June 1, 1843, it snowed and was very cold.
Haying and harvesting for Daniel and Hugh McDuffee, July 1833. To Richard Shoemaker, 1,000 feet sisding, $7.00. At the store in Athens, J. Rollins, 1 trunk, $2.50; five yds. of flannel, $5.50. Bought of August Morris, one cow $15.50. This is a sale to J. F. Bustenan: One jack knife, 25¢; two pair of socks, 75¢. These are home spun and knit by hand. One handkerchief and one pair of mittens, $1.37; one-half pound of tobacco, 12½¢. Later on he bought a hat for five dollars and five bushels of wheat for five dollars. In July 1837, William Case, boots and socks, $3.88. August 22, 1840, one pound of tea, 75¢, and four pounds of butter, 66½c, five pounds mutton, 25¢; 300 lbs. hay, $1.50; five lbs. 8 ozs. pork, 50¢; twelve lbs. salt, 24¢. To Tim Hireen, 2½ gallons whiskey; Cornelius Hurley, 2 qt., 25¢.
A note to friend George to send down ten gallons of whiskey for the shhoting match. Will pay George Saturday. Shooting for turkey and geese Nov. 24, 1847. This house of Job's was finished in 1840. Next above the Hireen farm was the Tyler farm. At the west end of this was the Emmett Moore farm, then above the Tyler farm was the Edmund Herrick place. All were originally bought from Daniel McDuffee who bought from Irwin.

In the olden days, they took a gallon jug of whiskey into the hay field with them and drank it as they do water today; no one got drunk or felt any ill effects from it. Those were the days when they used the old Scythe to cut the grass with.

In 1851, Edmund Herrick was sent to the Panama Canal Zone with a naval commission to survey for a canal across the Isthmus of Panama. He was stationed on the Atlantic side at the same time my father was stationed on the Pacific side, on a British Man-of-War, surveying the Panama waters around Toboga Island. After the Civil War, they lived here as neighbors the rest of their lives.

North of the Westbrook place was Captain Ira Stevens, who was related to the Tozers, he came here in 1784, built a log house, then built the large house that is still standing, in 1795. It is owned now and being remodled by Mr. Liddiard of Athens. It is a frame building put together with pins. The siding was made by hand. He had a daughter who married Sid Matheson.

In 1807, Mr. Clapp settled near Spanish Hill, Isaac Morley settled at Morleys Mill below Athens, Daniel Orcott settled at the mouth of Orcott Creek, this is at Wilawanna. It was called Orcott Creek until the D. L. & W. Railroad went through in 1882, and the Company changed it to Wilawanna. James Orcott is living today near the state line bridge at Wilawanna.

The large house at Spanish Hill was built by Pitt Snyder in 1830, a smaller house stood north of this and was built years before.
Lafayette Snyder, son of Pitt, lived in the larger house, then John Storms lived here for fifty years.

Now some odds and ends of the old times which I want to record: James Dolan and wife of Bradford County, August 7, 1836, looked up for murder, leaving a boy four years old. He was farmed out by the overseers of Athens Township to Eben Hidden until he was twenty-one. He had no right to waste goods, no right to marry, drink or play cards or dice, and was not allowed to frequent taverns or places of gambling. Eben Hidden promises to teach him and instruct him to read, write and cypher, as far as the rule of three. At the age of twenty-one, he is to have two suits of clothes, one for Sunday and one for work clothes.

In 1805, six hundred settlers got together and destroyed some of the wild animals of the wilderness. They formed a circle of one hundred and twenty miles around, and all worked to the center. It took them two days, they killed seventy-two panther, ninety wolves, and one hundred forty-five bear, thirty seven fox, twenty-eight wildcats. The bounty amounted to several dollars, this was divided among the hunters, besides each one had thirty-five pounds of meat a piece.

On the tomb stone in Standing Stone cemetery for your grandmother's great grandmother McCracken:

Remember me as you pass by,
As you are now, so once was I;
As I am now, so you will be
Prepare for death and follow me.

Anna Margaret, wife of Henry McCracken, died March 15, 1862, age 77 years, 3 months, 15 days.

In memory of Abigail, wife of Daniel Vitison, died January 21, 1866:

Asleep in Jesus, blessed sleep,
From which none ever wakes to weep,
A calm and undisturbed repose,
Unbroken by the last of foes.

Taken from a marker in the Standing Stone cemetery.

The following was taken from a marker on Durgey Hill, Ridgebury:

Permentia, wife of Larson Lefler, died April 15, 1858, age 45 years.

And must the lady die
This mortal frame decay
And must these active limbs of me
Lie moulding in the clay.

Rebecca, wife of Peter Lefler, Died Nov. 10, 1858, age 81 years.

My children assemble
Have a mother's grave to see
Not long ago I dwelled with you
But soon you will dwell with me.

William Coats killed by the Indians the first in Bradford Co. in the Revolution

Joseph Patterson drove the first stage coach in this section, he was killed by the Indians.

Vine Baldwin was the first white child born west of the Alleghany, he is buried on Abner Wright's farm at Lowman, N.Y. along with his three relatives.

Weights: Apples 50 lbs., onions 57, peaches green 48, potatoes irish 60. sweet 46, rutabagas 50, salt 50, tomatoes 45, turnips 42 all per bushel.

For sale, Nov. 18, 1824 at Towanda, 125 gallon capacity still, will run 15 bushel per day.

Wanted: 4,000 bushel of rye or corn for distilling. Ezra Long, Troy, Pa., Feb. 1826. Can make one hundred bushel of corn or rye into whiskey in twenty-four hours.

June 14, 1827, Charles Fairman started to make guns in Athens.

In 1833, we had our first appearance of organized labor in the United States. They had a way back in the middle ages that they called a guild, and we had these guilds in the New England States long before. In 1648 they had them in Massachusetts. In 1833, they held a convention in Philadelphia, this was the beginning of trade unions in the United States. Their demands were to keep unskilled workers out of skilled work, shorter working hours, improvement in sanitary conditions, higher wages and against convict labor, free schools, and they denounced the laws that sent seventy-five thousand of them a year to jail for debt.

I have belonged to organized labor all my life and my life membership card is in the case along with my masonic life membership; with all of this I will say that organized labor as it is today is the most unreasonable, tyranical, and ignorant outfit at large. They vote one day for capitalism and, like the farmers, work 364 days for co-operation. This is where the public school comes in again, but it will have to run its course and rot out. It cannot be purified from the inside.

Domestic bee-keeping was started by Jan Swamerdson, a Hollander, in the middle of the sixteenth century. A bee lives only to be six or eight weeks old. He collects sixty pounds of honey. It was a Philadelphia preacher who changed it from a fad to a national industry. The greatest amount of honey comes from the clover of Wisconsin.

Taken from the old newspapers: Harriet C. Wilson of Athens, August 6, 1827, spun 161 knots of yarn on a common wheel. There is plenty of competition among the young ladies of Bradford County.

Towanda Saddle Factory wants three thousand pounds of clean red deer hair, price to be paid in saddlery, January 1834.

Miss Paine of Towanda has a quantity of silk made by a lady of Athens, nearly as good as imported silk, December 3, 1833.

Monroeton Wool Manufacturing Co. will receive wool to card or manufacture, January 1, 1834. Cloth or on shares or by the yard or will take produce, lumber or cash.

In 1867 the farmers started a union called the Grange. They asked for more favorable laws for the farmers. They established co-operative stores all through the country. In 1875 they were at their peak and, like the organized labor, worked their fool heads off for co-operation and then voted for competition. The result is that the farmers with the aid of nature create nearly all the food. He takes it to the market and asks what they are paying for it; then he loads his wagon with the goods that he has to have on the farm and asks what they charge. He is caught coming and going. Rural mail route, good roads, rural electricity, all had to be jammed down their throats, he never would vote for it any more than an old man would vote for the party which stands for old age

pension and they keep wondering how it all happened. It is your school system that your taxpayers own, but dont take interest enough in the schools to run them to educate the youth in the meaning of the ballot.

This is a notice that appeared in a newspaper: Strayed came to the enclosure of the subscriber of Ridgebury Township on Tuesday twenty-second day of January 1852, a small red heifer with little red spots on her head and belly. The owner is to prove property, pay charges and take her away.

Decoration Day began with a general order issued in 1868 by General John A. Logan, Commander-in-Chief of the Grand Army of the Republic, designating May 30, 1868 for the purpose of strewing flowers, or otherwise decorating the graves of the comrades who died in defense of their country during the late rebellion, and that he hoped it would be kept up from year to year.
It is not recognized in Alabama, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisana, Mississippi, North or South Carolina.

Bradford County changed from Ontario County to Bradford on March 1, 1811. First court held in the home of William Means in Towanda. The County Officers were elected in 1812. First court in 1813. John Gibson was the first Judge.

The first post route was by an act of Congress on April 23, 1800, signed by President John Adams; Wilkes-Barre to Athens by the way of Wyalusing, Athens to Elmira, Painted Post, Bath and Canandaigua. Charles Mowery and Cyril Peck were the first mail carriers. They delivered every two weeks, Wilkes-Barre to Athens by foot. In 1816, the following rates were put into effect. A sheet of paper was considered a letter.

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 0 | to | 40 | miles | .08 |
| 40 | to | 90 | " | .10 |
| 90 | to | 150 | " | .12 |
| 150 | to | 300 | " | .17 |
| 300 | to | 500 | " | .26 |
| over 500 miles | | | | .25 |

Three sheets of paper would be three times the above rate. The person receiving the mail paid the postage. In 1810, routes were established and carried the mail. In 1777 a private express was established between Wyoming settlements and Hartford Connecticut every two weeks. Prince Bryant was the first rider.

The first patent in the United States was over the signature of George Washington, president and Thomas Jefferson, secretary of State to Samuel Hopkins, July 31, 1790, covered the process of bleaching wood ashes to produce potash for the making of soap.

Now we will see what we have on the railroads in this section. The first railroad in this section was the Erie, a single track road with a six foot gauge. The first train, Owego to Elmira, October 2, 1849, started laying a third rail to Binghamton in 1877. On February 2, 1889, the Erie stopped issuing passes to the employees and sold them one thousand mileage books for five dollars.

On August 5, 1880, there were seven switch-engines working at Waverly; three owned by the Erie and four by the Lehigh Valley.
In 1889, the Erie charged one dollar demurrage on all cars not unloaded inside of twenty-four hours.

It cost seven thousand dollars to put out new time tables in 1880.
On July 21, 1871, the Erie bought the Tioga Railroad; it ran from Morris Run

to Lawrenceville. On February 6, 1886, raised the speed limits of freights from 15 miles per hour to 20 miles per hour. February 6, 1886, Pullman shops in Elmira closed for good.

On December 5, 1873, the Erie started to double track. November 19, 1883, new standard of time was adopted by the Erie and D. L. & W. This is four minutes slower than the New York time. On November 20, 1869, Erie repair shops in Corning burned down. On September 10, 1869. Erie consolidated into Chicago. September 8, 1871, 80 trains through Waverly in twenty-four hours.
August 1, 1871, Erie had 370 engines in service.
Lehigh Valley and Erie contracts ran out in 1881. In 1866, engines on Erie were compelled to take on wood between stations. On July 20, 1886, raised running time for freights, 20 to 25 miles per hour. On September 14, 1878, the first standard gauge engine on the Erie. March 6, 1871, the Waverly, a Brooks engine, 31 tons, to be used between Waverly and Towanda.

Taken from a Book of Rules by President J. Gould: Four short blasts, call in flag; five short, stop for wood; three short, backing up; two short, let go brakes.

In 1854, a railroad was built from Williamsport to Elmira. The first rail used was a strip of wood, then a thin plate. The first upright rail was made by the Baltimore Iron Works in 1844 and was called the U rail. It was part hollow. You will find a piece in my cabinet. I got this from the old Panama Railroad, it was sent there in 1852.

Now the first train Binghamton to Elmira was on April 3, 1882, on the D.L. & W. Railroad.

Now we will see what we can find on the Lehigh. It is the railroad that is of the most interest to the people of the Valley. Most of the following records were taken from a scrap book loaned to me by Mr. Clayton Stevenson, a retired engineer, living here in Sayre.

MANUSCRIPT FROM THE PAPERS OF THE LATE Z. F. WALKER

The railroad was surveyed and constructed from the Erie Junction to Athens and Towanda in 1866 and 1867 and the first train entered Athens on the 26th day of November 1867, and from Wilkesbarre to Towanda, Sept. 20, 1869.
In 1867 the Pennsylvania - New York Canal and Railroad was opened for traffic from Waverly to Towanda, passing over the plains of Athens from the Erie Railroad Junction to the old canal west of the Chemung River where it followed near the Berme of the Canal to Morleys road crossing, where it crossed the Canal and followed the towing path the balance of the way through the Township.

In 1878 the line of the railroad was double tracked and radical changes made in straightening and the construction of the new iron bridge over the Chemung. In 1876 one span of the bridge here at Athens went out, percipitating quite a number of loaded cars of freight into the river, which obstructed traffic for several days.

At the Waverly end of the railroad, the company erected extensive coal pockets for transferring coal to the Erie cars, which was operated until about 1880, when the transfer was done away with and the trestle demolished.
In the fall of 1869, a company was chartered for the construction for a railroad from Athens to Ithaca called the Ithaca and Towanda railroad, afterwards changed to Ithaca and Athens and further on changed to Geneva, Ithaca and Sayre Railroad, with the southern terminal at Sayre. This railroad was constructed in 1869 and 1870 and 1871, and the first train was run for the public was on the fourth of July, 1871, when the contractors ran an excursion train for the benefit of the people along its line and soon after regular trains were

run, making Athens its southern terminus for some time, when the terminus was changed to Sayre, after Asa Packer had become a stockholder and had made large purchases of land at Sayre for a general junction there.

This line of railroad runs nearly north from Sayre, passing at the west end of Cayuta Creek highway bridge, Milltown, and about 300 feet west of the old first grist mill of northern Pennsylvania, originally known first as the Bryant, afterwards as the Shepard Mills and crossing the creek its east side about 1200 feet north of said bridge and thence to the State Line and this now is the main line of the Lehigh Valley to Buffalo with double track.

In 1869, the Southern Central, a line of railroad from Fair Haven to Owego conceived the idea on extension of their road from Owego to Sayre, which was constructed by Col. C. F. Welles, in 1869-1870 and 1871, and completed for operation about the same time as the Ithaca Railroad. This line had its connection with the Lehigh Valley at Sayre, and runs north and easterly, crossing Cayuta Creek about one half mile from Sayre and passing a little west of the late John Shepard's old mansion, and crossing the State Line on the late Adam Crouse farm. For a time this railroad had its junction at Athens as a terminus and was changed to Sayre at or about the same time of the Ithaca road. written by Zephon Flower Walker, born July 1, 1824, died October 7, 1897 Buried in Tioga Point cemetery, was surveyor for Bradford County and the paper is authentic. Clara Walker Bonfoey, August 12, 1942.

The first road was from Waverly to Towanda. It connected with the Barclay Railroad in 1867. The next year, they had three daily trains; one hour and ten minutes to make the trip

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PENNA. & N. Y. CANAL & R. R. COMPANY

TIME TABLE NO. I

To take effect on Wednesday, January 1st, 1868.
For the government and information of employees only. The Company reserving the right to change it as circumstances may require.

| Down trains Southward | | | Stations | Up trains Northward | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| P. M. | P. M. | A. M. | | A. M. | A. M. | P. M. |
| 6:35 | 12:30 | 9:00 | Waverly | 8:10 | 11:45 | 5:10 |
| 6:55 | 12:50 | 9:20 | Athens | 7:55 | 11:30 | 4:55 |
| 7:15 | 1:05 | 9:35 | Milan | 7:40 | 11:15 | 4:40 |
| 7:30 | 1:20 | 9:50 | Ulster | 7:25 | 11:00 | 4:25 |
| 8:00 | 1:45 | 10:15 | Towanda | 7:00 | 10:35 | 4:00 |

Office Penna. & N. Y. C. & R. R. Co.
Towanda, Pa., Jan. 1, 1868

JOHN P. COX
SUPERINTENDENT

Reporter Print, Towanda, Pa.

Then from Easton to Pittston in 1867, Pittston to Tunkhannock in 1868; from there to Towanda in 1869. First train, Easton to Waverly on August 25, 1869. First two engines, November 24, 1867 were the Hornet and Wyoming,

Shipped from Patterson, N. J. to Elmira, then by canal boat to Athens tannery and unloaded at a place called Stoneport in 1869.
First timetable on the Northern Central in 1868; September 16, Master Car Builders Association organized at Altoona. In the fall of 1869, a company was chartered to build a railroad from Athens to Ithaca, to be called the Ithaca and Athens Railroad.

In 1871, Howard Elmer bought several pieces of property and sold sixty-four acres to the Penna. and New York Railroad Canal Co. for a shops.
Sept. 10, 1869, the Erie with its third rail is an outlet for two hundred and thirty thousand four hundred and twenty-five tons of coal per year.
From 1869 to 1874, coal pockets were on Erie Street, near Pennsylvania Ave. in South Waverly.

December 2, 1871, Southern Central makes connections with the Lehigh Valley at Sayre instead of Athens. July 15, 1871, engines named Welles and Piollet made the run, Waverly to Elmira over the Erie, six cars, twenty-one miles. February 9, 1871 they bought the C. F. Wells 203 and the V. E. Piollet 204, thirty-one tons. February 25, 1871, one hundred pound rails for the G.I.& S. 1871 surveyed for a road, Troy to Athens by the way of East Smithfield .
1871, Fall Brook Railroad brings three trains daily to Waverly for transfer to Watkins Glen, mostly coal.
1871, palace cars on the Lehigh Valley, 1871 the engine Stockton pulled 130 dump cars of coal Pittston to Waverly, the heaviest train so far.
September 6, 1871, commenced work on the Montrose branch. The G.I.& S. surveyed for a railroad from East Waverly down through Fulton Street to connect with the Erie Railroad, changed to go through East Waverly.
April 19, 1872, engine 163 pulled 240 empty coal cars Sayre to Coxton with train three thousand six hundred feet long, fifteen foot to the car.
March 7, 1872, started double tracking Waverly to Towanda.
December 1, 1873, Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and Fireman organized.
January 26, 1875, the Pennsylvania and New York Railroad and Canal Co. leased the Waverly and State Line Railroad., it connected the New York and Pennsylvania Railroads with the Erie. It was one quarter of a mile long.
November 20, 1878, engine Live Oak pulled one hundred and forty-two cars Elmira to Waverly. November 20, 1876, thirty-two thousand freight cars passed over the Lehigh Valley in the last eleven months.

The year before it was fifteen thousand. October 9, 1876, moved office from Towanda to Sayre. The building is twenty-eight by forty-four, the first floor used by the dispatchers, yardmaster, telegraph operator; the second floor office of Mr. Packer, president of the G.I.& S. and superintendent of the Pennsylvania and New York Railroad and Canal Co., William Stevenson and Mr. Stedman. The first telephone call was from the office of Mr. Packer to his home. The Lehigh Valley had over four hundred engines that were named as well as numbered.

In 1876, the first wood bridge at Athens; February 25, 1876 changed the name from Factoryville to East Waverly. 1878, foundation started for shops, 124 ft by 286 ft., completed in 1881. Blacksmith shop, 64 ft by 110 ft. Round House, 39 stalls. J. N. Weaver was the master mechanic. The Round House was completed in 1883. Car shop, 142 ft. by 215 ft. completed in 1884.
In 1885, Montrose Railroad leased to the Lehigh Valley. April 19, 1884, Lehigh Valley leases State Line and Sullivan. September 23, 1883, Brotherhood of Trainmen founded. 1882, stock cars used on the Lehigh Valley junction to Waverly. April 11, Miss Mary Packer gave the Packer home for a hospital.

It would hold forty patients. June 22, 1889, Lehigh Valley delivered five thousand cars to Buffalo to relieve the grain situation.
In 1886, the Lehigh adopted railway signals; September 29, 1889, the Sayre yards completed 21 acres; six acres for shops, employed five hundred men. September 7, 1902, test train, 104 cars, four thousand fourteen tons went over the division. In 1902, they had two thousand ton train on the Lehigh Valley, the above train of one hundred and four cars; the speed was seventeen miles per hour, a distance of 84 miles.

March 4, 1907, the sixteen hour law in transportation. January 29, 1904 effective February 1, all trainmen will receive an increase in wages: Trainmen $2.30 per day; flagmen, $2.10; switchmen, $2.20. in 1905, new shops completed, machine shop 336 by 740 feet; forty-eight stalls for repairs, two machine bays holding over two hundred machines of various types; thirteen electric cranes, two that can handle two hundred and twenty tons each.

The old shops for the Lehigh were between the two railroads, opposite what is now the Waverly Silk Mill. They had a shed for their engines, instead of a round house. In 1832, the Lexington and Ohio operated, using horses for motive power. The first train drawn by steam locomotive was Albany to Schnectady on August 9, 1831. The first passenger railroad in the United States was the Baltimore and Ohio, started in 1828 and completed May 24, 1830, fourteen miles, horse drawn. First railroad outside the United States, Liverpool to Manchester, England, September 15, 1844. New York Central railroad, New York City to Albany, October 8, 1851. First electric railroad in the United States, operated in Baltimore, September 1, 1884.

President Lincoln authorized the building of a transcontinental railroad on May 10, 1869, at Promontory, Utah. The Golden Spike was driven into the cross ties connecting the Union Pacific, which started from Omaha, Nebraska, December 1, 1863. The Central Pacific started from San Francisco on January 8, 1863.

The following is information furnished me by W. C. Barrett, Chief of Personnel of the Lehigh Valley Railroad at Bethlehem, Pa., taken from a book printed for the information of the Lehigh Valley officials: it is not published for the public. The Delaware and Lehigh, Schuykill and Susquehanna Railroad incorporated on April 21, 1846.

January 7, 1853, name changed to the Lehigh Valley Railroad, an agreement between the Lehigh Valley and the Erie, September 30, 1868.
The Erie agreed to lay the third rail, Waverly to Buffalo. Construction of railroad, Wilkes-Barre to State Line started in 1866. Wilkes-Barre to Pittston in 1867; Towanda to the State Line in 1867; Pittston to Tunkhannock in 1868. Wilkes-Barre to the State Line in 1869. Waverly and State Line railroad incorporated January 11, 1867; completed the same year, 4000 feet.

This road, perhaps the shortest incorporated railroad in the world, connected the Lehigh on the State Line and tied in with the Erie right opposite of what is now the Waverly Silk Mill, then it ran west, parallel with the Erie tracks as far as the depot. The Lehigh started to run trains over the Erie in 1870. The Buffalo and Geneva Railroad, this is what they called the new road, was incorporated February 28, 1889; construction began 1890, completed in 1891. The Erie stopped using the third rail, Waverly to Elmira, June 22, 1880.

Let us see what we can get on the canals, they were used by the Egyptians, Mexicans and Indians in different countries years ago for irrigating purposes. Later on they were used for transportation purposes.
They were first built on the level then they used the lock system which was around 1481 to get around waterfalls and grades, the Grand Canal of China is

a good example of early canals, it connects Pekin with Hanchow, 1000 miles long with no locks, completed 1289.
The Welland Ship Canal in Ontario, Canada, was built to get the ships around Niagara Falls, connects Lake Erie with Lake Ontario; it is 27 miles long, 300 feet wide, 40 feet deep, eight sets of locks, a drop of 336 feet.
The Suez Canal connects the Mediterranean with the Red Sea, it is a sea level canal dug by the French and Egyptians, later on the British got control of it although they dont have the controlling shares, this is just an old English custom. The French Engineer was DeLesseps, it was started in 1859, completed in 1869, cost one hundred million dollars; 100 miles long, they started at a depth of thirty feet and increased it to thirty-six feet, 200 feet wide, time of transit is eleven and one half hours.
The Kiel Canal connects the North Sea with the Baltic, built by the Germans, we also have several long canals along our Gulf and Atlantic coast that connects one bay with another.
The Panama Canal, started by the French in 1880 headed by the same engineer DeLesseps that dug the Suez Canal, they were just thirty years a head of the times, they used one half yard buckets on their excavators while we used the steam shovel with a five yard bucket and if they were to dig it today they would use fifteen yard buckets.

They paid no attention to sanitation, work was done by contract and graft galore, they used Belgian and French machinery which was made of the best material and a few pieces of it is still used by the Canal today.

The Americans took over May 1st 1904, they found the French records were accurate even if there was plenty of graft, we paid the French Company $40,000,000 for their concessions, tried to buy a concession from the Columbian government which owned this section at that time but they would not sell at a reasonable figure; then we got a few natives to start a Revolution and then gave $10,000,000 and recognized the Republic of Panama. This fast stuff was pulled by President Theodore Roosevelt, so he claimed in his speech in Seattle, Washington a few years later.
48,000 men were on the payroll each year from 1908 to April 1, 1914 when the Canal was completed, they had one of the best organizations known, Chief Engineer John F. Stevens, who was there just prior to Goethals, gave the men the right to appeal regardless of whether he was a native, an alien or an American. Goethals took over April 15th, 1907, he allowed the same system to prevail, and I can truthfully say that in my long years of Construction and Maintainence I did not see or hear of any graft.
The work was carried on by the Government who owned the homes, churches, schools, club houses, and handled everything a person needed.
April 15th, 1907 when Goethals came the rough necks as they were known on the canal had a meeting at Empire and Corozal and voted to quit, they informed Goethals that they did not join the army; he promised them there would be no army rules or discipline, it would be carried on as a civilian organization, and it was. I never saw him in uniform; he was a great man and was worth the $14,000 per year that the government paid him, not as an engineer as the civilians did all that, but he was worth this money to keep the civilians straight; he was respected by every man under him, regardless of race, color or creed, but if they ever put up a monument to the builder of the Panama Canal it should be in honor of Theodore Roosevelt, as he fought the Railroad Lobby in the States and told the politicians to go where the woodbine twineth, he stole the Canal from the Columbian Government and got away with it, afterwards paid the Columbian Government $25,000,000 and along with this came oil concessions for the various oil companies in the states, in other words, the tax payers in the states paid this money for the oil concessions.

This Canal is fifty miles long, that is from 45 foot depth in the Atlantic to 45 foot depth in the Pacific, both at low tide. 300 feet wide at bottom of canal at a depth of 45 feet.

A great many people think that this is a very expensive proposition on the part of the government; they are not aware that it has a revenue coming into the Treasury of around $8,000,000 per year, derived from the subsideries of the canal, this is aside of the $24,000,000 that they take in in tolls. It has been worth the cost of building just in World War II alone.

The first canal in the United States, some authorities claim was built in south Hadley, Mass., but there was one built at Bellows Falls, Vermont, started in 1792 and completed in 1802.

Now the great Erie Canal, Buffalo to New York, 340 miles, Canal legislation was first introduced in the Assembly in 1808, James Geddes of Onondago made the first survey, it had a depth of only four feet, and forty-two feet wide, when it was first dug, the first spade full of dirt was handled at Rome, N. Y. July 4th, 1817. The first boat was the Seneca Chief, left Lake Erie Oct. 4th. and arrived at Sandy Hook in Oct. 16th, 1825.

The Canal was dug mostly by the Irish, they were paid seventy-five cents for a ten hour day, living and housing conditions were unsanitary and a great many of them died of disease, all work was by contract, a politician would get the contract ten cents per yard to remove the dirt, then he would sublet it for five cents per yard to remove the dirt and the profits came from the hides of the workers, the contractors were the leading men of the day or what we call our leading citizens, in other words he was a successful business man, regardless of how he got it.

They had a stump machine manned by seven men and a team of oxen, that could remove thirty to forty large stumps per day, they also had a machine equipped with a heavy knife that they used to cut the roots with, this was the first time that the scraper was used to handle dirt by oxen or horses.

This canal built great cities, peopled great states, helped the immigration west and it made New York City the leading city in the western hemisphere, instead of Philadelphia.; it brought prosperity to the backwoods of New York State it boosted the value of land, it cut the freight rate Albany to Rochester from $100 a ton down to $10 per ton, thirty cent wheat in the Genesee Valley rose to $1 wheat, it reduced the time of travel Buffalo to New York from six weeks to ten days. The Canal made Buffalo, Rochester and Syracuse, as well as dozens of smaller towns, boat building became the leading industry, employing hundreds of men; they had at one time 4,000 boats on the canal, the men and boys in the employ of operating the canal baots were rather tough, they drank, swore and fought but they kept the boats moving; there are a great men employed in this department alone. There were a great many passenger boats in operation until the railroad got to running, but the freight business kept up until the fast moving trucks cut this business down.

Seven years after the Seneca Chief made the first trip, they started to enlarge the canal, it took them thirty years, they widened it to 70 feet and a depth of seven feet, all locks had to be changed; the original boat was thirty ton, then it was seventy ton, then up to two hundred ton boats, the improvement cost the state of New York $31,000,000 and when the tolls were abolished in 1882 the canal had paid the state over and above all expenses, $42,000. The Barge Canal increased the width to 120 feet and the depth to 12 feet, cost $176,000,000, completed in 1918.

Now the most costly break in the canal happened Sept. 3rd, 1912 in Irondequoit Valley, near Rochester, N. Y. it cost the state $250,000.

April 28, 1871, a muskrat caused a break in the canal bank 510 feet long, this occured near Rochester at a place called Oxbow, there was a canal boat washed through this opening and deposited against a tree a mile from the canal, the family and four horses were unhurt, the boat was never salvaged.
A man by the name of Pattison of Waynesport, N.Y. built a boat near his mill and had to haul it three miles to launch it, it took forty yoke of oxen.

The minute they took the harness off the mules, the first thing they did was to lay down and roll and kept on rolling, this is a characteristic of all mules, and at times it has been known to have rolled in the canal and drowned.

The boat painters got $6.00 for six days work, they got six days board for $3.00

The Great White Sea Canal in Russia connects the White Sea with the Baltic, 140 miles long; 19 locks, all wood construction, which was cut right on the spot where it was used; they have one third of the timber of the world, they also have 250,000,000 acres of black soil two to five feet deep.

Now a brief outline of the canal back of your barn, that connected with the junction canal that in turn connected with the Chemung Canal at Elmira.

Now a little dope on the Chemung Canal, this was built by the State of New York, started in 1830 completed in 1833, cost $344,000.
It was thirty-nine miles long, it started from Corning, from there to Horseheads, one branch went north to Watkins, which is on Seneca Lake, another branch south to the Chemung River in Elmira. At the river they had a spillway into the river just east of the Erie Railroad, they had a feeder canal that came from the Chemung River south of Corning to the main canal near Horseheads, there was a drop of 516 feet, it required 53 lockes, 8 waste weirs, 24 road bridges, 11 farm bridges and 3 aqueducts. The first two boats were the General Sullivan and Lady Sullivan. The Collector of tolls was at Horseheads.
This canal was a good paying proposition for just one item alone, and that was getting the pine lumber to the markets.
All locks, except one were built of wood, put together with pins, the only iron used was the hinges for the gates, all handmade.
I viewed several of the locks, that is, what is left of them and got a piece of wood from the sill of lock 42; the timbers in the side walls and bottom were sometimes eighteen inches square, hewed by hand, and some of them to this day are being taken out and used for various purposes.

Now the Junction Canal, this canal was privately owned and operated; it was the state line near Johnny Cake Dam, north to the South Branch of the Chemung Canal, it tied into that canal at the present site of the D.L.& W. Railroad station in Elmira, they surveyed both sides of the river, Elmira to the State Line, estimated cost east of the river was $246,000. 17½ miles, lockage 71 feet, 11 locks, three dams surveyed Oct. 1852. The west side estimated $249,000, 17¼ miles, lockage 58 feet, 8 locks and three dams.
The State of Pennsylvania paid the Junction Canal Company $20,000 for their share in building Johnny Cake Dam, lock and lock houses, and $250 per year for the upkeep of same; the state gave a bond of $25,000 on the 23rd day of February 1853.

They had a narrow gauge railroad running from the stone quarry to the Dam, a switch back affair, the stone quarry is in the mountain right opposite the Dam. The Dam was washed out once but rebuilt and completed in the early spring of 1854. The intake lock was tended by Mr. Kilpatrick, relatives of John Kilpatrick of Willawanna and David Shier, was also a lock tender.
They had a small settlement right near there and a small store, also a boarding

house and barns for the mules; it was called Johnny Cake because this was all some of the people had to eat when they first came there to work.
This dam was built by the old settlers of Ridgebury; Joe Markhams father, Mr. Corkran, Jack Leahys father, the Parshalls, Rightmires, the Limericks, Squires, Jacklins, the Lauries and several other of the old families, they got ten cents per hour, ten hours a day, walked all the way to work, then after work back up the hill at night to their little log cabin in the wilderness. Patty O'Leary lived here until 1856 then he moved on a farm he bought up Toodletown Creek, built a log house which I can well remember.
The horses and mules were ferried across the river; at Chemung is where they connected with the Erie Railroad, just south of this junction was the outlet lock, you can still see the large basin that held several canal boats.
The coal was taken out of the boats by buckets operated by steel cranes, and loaded into the cars, they also transferred a large amount of lumber.
The coal dock was 100 feet long, the lumber dock extended on up the canal north of this dock, this was the busiest place in this section of the country.
The people from Ridgebury cut and hauled wood by ox team and wagon or sleighs to these docks to be used on the Erie Railroad for fuel.

Jimmy Orcutt, now living near Willawanna, born July 3, 1851, had a brother that ran a store near this junction, it was their forefathers that came to Orcutt Creek.

The last coal boat unloaded here in the late fall of 1869, there was one day of twenty-four hours that 99 boats passed through lock 6, this was one of their busiest days.

This Junction Canal I have heard my mother speak of as the Arnot and Ogden Canal, and a few people in Pennsylvania had their money invested in it.

Now back to the old canal back of your barn, I will quote you a letter of Mr. C.I.A. Chapman to Mr. O. O. Esser, Superintendent of the Lehigh Valley Railroad, Penna. and New York Division, dated April 17, 1898.
In Feb. 1826, the Penna. Legislature passed a general, internal improvement act, under the operation of which the North Branch Canal was built, work was commenced July 4, 1828, at Berwick, Penna. 1830 the Canal was completed from Northumberland to Nanticoke. In 1834 the Canal was completed to the Lackawanna River at Pittston, the work on the canal north of Pittston, progressed slowly until 1838, when it was abandoned altogether. In 1842 the Legislature incorporated the North Branch Canal Company with a capital of $1,500,000 and transferred to the Company all the right, title and interest of the Commonwealth in the unfinished work, from the Lackawanna River to the southern boundary of New York State, provided the Company completed the Canal within a period of three years. In 1843 a supplement to the foregoing was passed by the Legislature donating to said Company the finished Canal from Solomons Creek near WilkesBarre to the Lackawanna River, 14 miles, as a further inducement to the formation of the Company and the completion of the enterprise. It was supposed that the liberal offer of the State would induce prompt action on the part of the Capitalists, but the presumption was not well founded and in 1848, the Commonwealth resumed the work, and the work was not completed until Nov. 1854 when the first two boats, the Towanda and Ravine Coal Company #4 were the first boats to reach Elmira, they having to pass through the Junction Canal, Athens to Elmira, which was built by private individuals.

In 1858 the Legislature disposed of its canals to the Sunbury and Erie Co. for the sum of $3,500,000. After gaining possession of the canals the railroad sold the North Branch Canal, from Northumberland to the State Line near Athens, to the North Branch Canal Company for $1,500,000, this last mentioned company soon after sold that portion extending from North Hampton Street in Wilkesbarre

to Northumberland to the Wyoming Canal Company for $990,000, retaining that part from North Hampton Street to the State Line, a distance of 104 miles, the last boat named J. S. Graybill, Captain Myles, to pass south through the North Branch Canal, arrived at Mill Creek, Sept. 6, 1881, laden with corn.

You will readily see the difference in the records of this canal but the following is correct as far as I know.

The people in this locality wanted a canal constructed up the Susquehanna River to connect with the Erie Canal north of Geneva, they claimed they could put coal to the central part of New York State, ten to fifteen dollars cheaper per ton than the present method of transportation, which was by wagon.
One of the principal reasons for the canal in this locality was the hard coal pockets near Pittston and the Barclay coal on Barclay mountain.
Robert Barclay of England bought 10,000 acres in 1794, on and around what is known now as Barclay mountain, the highest point is 2041 feet above sea level. It will be of interest to you kids as it is a great hunting ground for deer, bear, wildcat and smaller game, and at one time it was the nesting and roosting place for the wild pigeons. Abner Cole discovered coal while hunting here in 1812, the land was bought from Mr. Barclay and a company was formed at Towanda called the Towanda Coal and Railroad Company; they built a settlement on top of the mountain and called it Barclay, 1856. The Company owned all the buildings, the miners got from $4 to $8 per day.
The railroad was sixteen miles long, Towanda to Barclay and at Barclay there was an inclined plane 475 feet long. When they closed down the mines at Carbon Run, which is near Barclay, they tied down whistles on the boilers and let them blow until the steam was gone, this was 1884, the mines at Barclay run until 1890; they had a nice shanty town, a Catholic Church, Presbyterian Church, roller skating rink, Odd Fellows Hall, dance hall and picnic ground; every family was large, some had as high as sixteen children; they ran a stage coach, it held sixteen passengers, they charged twenty-five cents foot of plane to Barclay.

The lodge of Odd Fellows # 807 started July 1, 1872, they had 110 members, there was an epidemic of diphtheria that struck this place in 1884 and 1885, some families lost as high as five children.
They mined 1500 tons of coal per day; coal #1 was $1.50 at the mines, blacksmith coal was $1.00 at the mines; the old residents had an organization and would meet at the old picnic grounds every year and some of the old folks and relatives still go there once a year for a get-to-gether and picnic and talk over old times. At the present time there no buildings left in old Barclay.

The Canal was known to the old boatmen as the Ditch, due to its smallness in comparison to the larger canals in the central part of the state, but it was the same size as the Junction and Chemung canals.

Meetings were held all along the river, centered at Towanda, this coal from Barclay was ideal blacksmith coal and at that time the country was full of blacksmiths. This whole route was surveyed by Mr. Randall, Chief Engineer, the work was started in Bradford County in 1836, they only worked a few months off and on, the money was hard to get, 1841 to 1849 the work was suspended.

Bids were asked for the construction of two and five eight miles from the state line south, except the Dam, intake lock and lock house, this includes the part through your place, the bids closed April 14, 1853. At the Canal office in Towanda the bids were for excavating, and for bridges, locks, one weigh lock and lock houses, the Canal was poorly constructed, graft everywhere, the same as all other government jobs except the Panama Canal; the Canal leaked so they could not keep water in it, they got David Rahm, an authority on Canal build-

ing, he took some men and boats and dug up the clay down below Milan and lined the bottom where it passed through the gravel ground. The people finally got tired of it and sick of the graft, they state operated it from the spring of 1854 until 1858, when the state Legislature authorized the sale of it to the Sunbury and Erie Railroad Company, the sale price was $3,500,000, Wilkesbarre to the State Line.
The principal builders of the Canal or Contractors were Wells, Mercer, Hollenback, and parties from Luzerne County. The Pennsylvania and New York Railroad was formed and purchased the canal and this company got a charter to put a tow path on the brim side of the canal.

Now we will go back to the old canal near your home and I will give you the rules and regulations passed by the Legislature at Harrisburg 1833, the rates quoted here is the toll that the State collected from the boatmen for the use of the canal, so dont confuse the rates with freight rates.
Freight rates were fixed by private owners of the boats and a very few can be obtained at this late date.

The Board of Commissioners shall appoint District Supervisors and they in turn shall hire foremen, but the foremen cannot keep boarders or contract for any labor or material; the Supervisor shall keep water in the Canal during the winter, watch out for repairs, and see that they are made and to get the Canal in shape as soon as the ice goes out in the spring; he appoints all lock keepers, buys all material, hires and pays all labor on his section.
The Commissioners appoint the toll Collector who is required to furnish bonds from $3000 to $10,000 payable to the State. All boats to be registered, all boats will have to be weighed light weight, stating the amount of water in the boat at time of weighing.

The registration shall include the owners name, the masters name or Captain, their place of residence, and name of boat. When he weighs his boat for the purpose of arriving at the toll, the weight of the water in the boat at light weight will be allowed. No boat can depart from the Collectors office without a clearance, no charge for less than one mile, no person is allowed to open the large gates or the paddle gate only the lock keeper, a fine of $5.00 will be levied against anyone taking off their horses at the locks when the boat is in the lock, the boat will be fastened to the lock while they are being filled or emptied, no person is allowed to ride a horse on the tow path or the brim side without they are towing a boat or barge.

All boats shall not have not sharp corners or any thing projecting out that will cause damage to other boats. All rudders shall be so constructed as not to catch a tow rope. No dead animals or refuse of any kind shall be thrown in the canal. All open fires shall be put out while passing over an aqueduct and no person shall carry a lantern without it is enclosed. No pipe or cigar can be smoked while in the locks or near bridges and aqueducts. No new bridge over the canal can be built without the consent of the State. The township or county will have to pay the cost of building and maintainance. The clearance of the bridges from the bottom of the canal to the sleeper or sills shall be fifteen feet.
All boats or floats will be allowed forty-eight hours to discharge or take on cargo. The lock tender, weigh master, or supervisor has the authority to take from private land, dirt, gravel or any other available material to repair a break in the canal, the state to reimburse the owner of same.
A fine of fifty dollars for throwing anything into the canal or on the towing path or brim side of the canal. One hundred dollars fine and three years hard labor for interfering with the locks, sluice gates, wicket, paddle or culvert gates, or driving any nail or wedges in the gates or any other act that would

interfere with the safe operation of same.

Two boats about to pas in the narrow part of the canal, the boat going with the current has the right of way. No boat will be allowed to move faster than four miles per hour without special permission. Two boats going in the same direction, the slower boat will be compelled to allow the faster boat to pass. If an employee is discharged, they have seven days to live on the canal property. The name of the boat had to be painted on the bow or stern and where from. A charge of fifty cents for weighing a boat, where they could not weigh the cargo the following weights were allowed: Barrel of beef, salted 280 lbs. bushel of barley 45 lbs., buckwheat the same, corn fifty-six lbs. to the bushel, flour per barrel 212 lbs., salt fish 300 lbs., horses 600 lbs each, liquor 300 lbs per barrel, oats 30 lgs per bushel, oysters 75 lbs per bushel, salted pork 200 lbs. per barrel. Rates of toll on agricultural implements of immigrants accompanied by owner, seven mills per mile per 1000 pounds, ale and porter in barrels 7 mills per 1000 pounds.

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 43. | Sheep | do | 07 | 7 |
| 44. | Stoneware | do | 0 | 9 |
| 45. | Straw | do | 0 | 7 |
| 46. | Swine | do | 0 | 7 |
| 47. | Tobacco, manufactured | do | 1 | 2 |
| 48. | Wool 1000 lbs | do | | |
| 49. | On all boats and other vessels made and used chiefly for the transportation of property | mile | 3 | 0 |
| | On each person over 12 years of age, transported in a boat used chiefly for the transportation of property | do | 0 | 5 |
| | On each person over 12 years of age, transported in a boat used chiefly for the transportation of persons | do | 0 | 7½ |
| | For weighing each boat or other vessel not navigating the Pennsylvania Canal | | | 50 cents |

These articles were picked from among several hundred various articles listed to give you a cross section of the tolls.

Nearly all the land was given to the canal by private owners as long as it was used for canal purposes. At our old home the land was bought from Ransom Parshall, this is Mr. Forrest's home now, below this it was purchased from Daniel McDuffee, about thirty acres in all.

North of the D.L.& W. tracks on the Canal were several houses used by Canal employees. Now starting from the west end of the bridge due west to the canal was a lane; the house Hugh Beers owns was built by I.R. Wood who sold to Pat Kelley, he sold to Hugh Beers. Mr. Wood worked on the canal, Pat Kelley also worke there and at the close of the canal he moved to Athens and was a section foreman for the Lehigh Valley

Starting from the bridge again on the south side, at the end was the toll house, a few rods down the river road on your right was the horse barn; then you came to the lane or road due west up over the canal and on up over the hill to the old John Hurley place. The first house on your left on this lane near the river was where Levi Canfield lived, he worked for the canal and afterwards for the railroad. The next house on the same side of the road on the little hill was the home of William Canfield, the father of Levi, Bill and Frank, William operated a repair boat on the canal, afterwards he was known as

the greatest corn husker in this section. His brother Sol owned a boat and had a team of white mules, he used them for lumbering in winter and on the canal in the summer. Next house was Richard Fahey who also worked on the canal and afterwards was a foreman in the car shops at Sayre.
As you reach the canal on your left was the coal pockets where my father sold coal, the people came for miles around for it, both soft coal from Barclay and the hard coal from Pittston., it took twelve days, Pittston to Elmira for a canal boat to make the trip north, fifty tons of coal, one day was to unload and three days to return. The first boat to use the canal in this section was the Towanda, Captain Dennis loaded with coal in the spring of 1854. Then the bridge over the canal was high enough for a horse or mule to pass under when on the tow path, all farmers had a bridge of this type. It cost $1 per ton to haul coal from the Towanda basin to this place, this included the toll.
To the north of this road, where our old homstead stands was the storehouse now used for a barn, all heavy goods were handled there such as salt, flour, hay etc. I can remember the long counter, my father also sold whiskey over this counter. The downstairs in the house was also used for a store where they sold the small supplies, up over this store is wher all four of us children were born.

Looking over the old books of my father I find the names of the old settlers that bought coal there in 1864, I will name a few of them:
William Brooks, Mr. Pierce, J. Clapp, Mr. Bosworth, J.H.Murray, Sidney Hayden, R. Shaw, C. F. Floyd, C. Warford, Guy Tozer. Albert Tozer, Levi Westbrook, Daniel McDuffee and Mr. Parshall. For other goods, Michael McArdle, 1 lb. of crackers 10 cents, five pints whiskey 48¢, The canal boat Minnesota, five lbs. sugar 57¢, 1/12 of a lb. of butter 10¢, hay 15¢, ½ bu. oats 18¢, he bought ten dollars fifteen cents worth of hay from Dan. McDuffee.
A Mrs. Fake bought 1 lb. coffee 23¢, ½ lb tea 63¢, The boat Barclay, 1 qt. vinegar 9¢, ½ gal. syrup 31¢, horses to hay 25¢; some lady by the name of Martha got the following order; 5/8 yd. linen 40¢, 14½ yds. gingham $ 2.18, 8yds. ribbon 50¢, 4 yds 25¢, ¼ yd. velvet 16¢, 2 yds. calico 16¢, 2 combs 25¢. Captain Doolittle got a pair of boots for himself $2.10, for one of his sons, $1.75, and a pair for another son $2.81; to N. W. Quick ½ lb. tea 64¢, 3 pints whiskey 30¢, 5½ lbs butter 69¢, 4½ lbs mackerel 32¢, ½ gal. syrup 31¢; he sold an order to a boat June 20, 69, 2 oz. cinnamon 12¢, 2 oz. cloves 12¢, 1 oz. nutmeg 10¢, he bought from Dan Murphy same date, 107 lbs. beef @ 8¢ per lb. kerosene oil 20¢ a gal. molasses 30¢, tobacco 40¢ per lb. this was a plug and the finecut for chewing, nearly everyone that used tobacco, chewed it, this was before cigarettes. A firkin of butter weighed 56 lbs., this was a small wooden tub, 200 lbs barrel of beef, pork or fish; 280 lbs. a barrel of salt, 196 lbs. a barrel of flour, 1 quintill of fish 100 lbs.

In front of the house and barn next to the canal, the bank of the canal was walled up so that a canal boat could tie up and load or unload; north of the house was a long building for storing plaster; now south of the coal pockets was a large two story barn for stabling horses or mules and south of this was the lock house; I remember the night it burned, Tine Bell lived there and was one of the lock tenders, Dubois Bell operated a boat on the canal; due west of the horse barn was the weigh lock, over 100 feet long, 20 feet wide and the same depth as the canal, it was covered and was built of oak timbers 18 by 24 and was the home of hundreds of tame pigeons. The canal boats as a rule were about 80 ft. long, not over 8 ft, above the water line when empty, twelve to fifteen ft. wide, not over 80 ton capacity; this was in addition to the team or teams and the Captain's family.

A great many people operated a boat in the summer and worked in the lumber woods in the winter. At this weigh lock all boats were weighed that were loaded and all empty boats that did not have a certificate from some other weigh lock. A boat going into a lock for weighing, the opposite gates would be closed. (They weigh the loaded boat then subtract the light weight, which gave the weight of the load). When it got in the lock the other gates were closed, the boats were held in position by snub ropes on either side of the lock, the tail gates were opened, that is, gates on the west side. The water flowed through a tail race to the lower level of the canal lock just below the weigh lock; this is where the boys caught all kinds of fish, they would put nets across the tail race as the water was let out and the boat settled; it rested on a series of blocks which were on a set of scales, the instrument board of these scales was located in the weigh lock house next to the weigh lock.
Mr. Wickham was the weigh master and Jack McDuffee was the Supervisor over the whole works. At one time Sam Bell lived in this house, he was the father of Mrs. Crawford of Sayre. John Wood, the father of Jep Wood lived there also and worked for the canal. I can remember the building and as I said before these buildings were sold to Manson Elsbree and used in the long horse barn.

When I was about ten years old we had a brown mare that looked like Quaenie only worth three times as much, it was my job to get uo early in the morning and take my father to work, I looked all over the pasture which was around these buildings and lots, one of the neighbors came over to help me and he discovered she had backed down into an old abandoned well near this house, she could not be taken out and my father had her shot.

The locks in the main line of the canal were twenty feet wide and 100 feet long, the upper gates were seven feet six inches high and ten feet wide, the lower gates varied according to grade, but they were around twenty feet high. A boat coming down the canal, the gates were closed and the wicker gates, a series of small gates attached to the bottom of the larger gates were open and the chamber allowed to fill to a level of the upper canal. Then the upper gates were closed and the wicker gates on the larger gates were opened and when the lock reached the level of the canal the lower gates were opened and the boats passed out and on down the canal.
Now a boat going up, moved right in the lower gates, they were closed and the water from the upper level passes down through the side walls, came in at the bottom until the lock reached the upper level then the upper gates were opened and the boat moved on up the canal.
Now compare these locks with the Panama Canal locks, that is, the new ones that they have got nearly completed, they are 140 feet wide, 1200 feet long, 45 foot clearance over the lock sills and all of the operating is done by electricity, the old canal locks were operated by hand. There were two sets of locks below this lock and the river and were known as the Kelley locks. The boat going south or with the current had the right of way, they would slack their tow line and it would pass under the boat going north; they passed to the right of the boat but the mules passed to the left of the mules coming north.
As the south bound boat passed the tow line was slackened and the north bound mules stepped over. Jimmy Orcutt of Wilawanna had a brother that loaded his step ladder and tools on a boat at Johnny Cake Dam for Towanda, it cost him one dollar, this was about the last of the canal; he came back with the same equipment by rail and it cost him four dollars; the bulk of the freight north was coal from the Barclay mine and hard coal from Pittston. The south bound freight was salt, lumber, grain, hides and dairy products, the record traffic in 1859 was 880,115 tons, 1,188 boats south and 1,210 boats north.
As a matter of record I want to mention the Mississippi River packet boats

that I rode on when I was a young man in circulation, I traveled several hundred miles miles on the Mississippi and Ohio rivers and as I am writing this I am looking at a picture on the folder that I still have of the Queen City, she was 235 ft. long, 44 ft. beam, depth of hold 6½ ft., 1,400 ton capacity. A stern wheeler,also made trips on the Virginia, Morning Star and others. It was an enjoyable way to travel, dancing, card playing and handing out a good line, good food, clean beds and a great variety of people, I got acquainted with, was a bunch of moonshiners from the Big Sandy River in Kentucky. I lived with them in their mountain home for a week and it was one of the most enjoyable weeks of my life. They were as square a class of people as I ever got acquainted with, danced every night and fished every day.
Now one of these boats going against the current made better time than a boat going with the current as they had to go beyond their landings, turn and come against the current while making a landing, then make another turn to go on down the stream.

The stone quarry you see in the side of the hill below Mr. Minards is where all the stone came from for all the locks in this vicinity. They had all to be cut by an expert stone cutter. The old road along the mountain cut out for a tow path as well as a wagon road and it is many a dark night I had to go after my father along this mountain road; one good thing, I never met anyone on the road and I always had my dog with me.

The first place south of the narrows was the Larry Burke place, then on down was a place called the Patch. E. Reagan one acre, Mr. Holleran four acres, Mr. O'Brien one acre, J. Mason one acre, Mr. Holleran one and one-half acres, John Walen two acres, William Ryan two acres, J. Normile fifteen acres and E. Spaulding. Just below the Patch was what they called Stone Port; a boat building business was started here by Jabez Stone and followed by his son Peter J. Stone, who was the uncle of George Loop, the retired mail carrier of Sayre. George's father ran rafts down the river and walked back; forty miles per day was about the average distance traveled by the returning raftsman.
Peter Stone invented a cleaner that was attached to the bottom of the boat to clean the bottom of the canal.

The flood of 1865 nearly cleaned out StonePort and the flood of 1870 completed the job. A man by the name of Russell ran a boarding house at Stone Port and was an uncle of Mike Clune, the Waverly barber.

Now back to your farm, at the time of the canal the whole creek passed by your house, it ran under the canal at your place, this was called the aqueduct, it had a gate that could be used to open and let the water out of the canal, it emptied into this creek, another good place to fish. At this place were two bridges, one across the creek and the other across the canal.

In writing anything about the canal, construction and maintainance of the canal it would hardly be fair to leave out the Irish from this picture, as it was this race of people that did most of the digging and cutting the stone for the numerous locks. They had in those days what they called the hand barrow, it was like a short stretcher, two men carried it; they also had the wheel barrow. Scrapers were handled by horses and oxen; the work was done by sub-contractors and when the work stopped, a great many of the men took their pay in land, it was the only way they could get it, a great many of them settled in Ridgebury. This land was owned by Charles Carroll, he got it from the State in 1792 and offered it for sale in 1839. The first two settlers in Ridgebury were Isaac Fuller and Joel Campbell in 1805, from Orange Co. New York. They bought seed, cattle and ox teams and settled in Bentley Creek. Campbell had eight children.

Sam Bennett was the first to settle on the hill near the Durkee schoolhouse in 1807, he gave this section the name of Ridgebury on account of the great amount of berries growing on his place. Vine Baldwin came in 1809 from Norwich, Conn. John Burke came in 1827 from Burkesville, N.Y. he was the first postmaster; Sturgis Squires came in 1827, Cornelius Driscoll came in 1839 and put up a log house on what was afterwards the Corkran place, he brought his family in 1840, Richard O'Connor came in 1840, James White in 1841, also George O'Leary in 1841. In 1842 there was Richard Hurley, John Mahoney, Patrick Butler, Dan, George and Thomas Chamberlain, Daniel Cain, James Coveney and Daniel Desmond.
In 1860 there were 267 farms occupied, thirteen school houses, four blacksmith shops, four saw mills, four general stores, one on the hill and three on Bentley Creek, today but few farms are occupied, a few of the old log buildings can be seen today.

In order to complete the picture of Ridgebury, I will say something of their church, as their lives and interests were wrapped up in it more than any other project, some authorities have it that there was an old log church , but I cannot verify these statements.
The best that I can get is that the first Mass was held at the home of Daniel Cain, about twenty people present, a Chapel was erected by Colonel Scott at a cost of $750 in 1847, rebuilt in 1877.
The first two outstanding Priests were Father Fitzsimmons from St Joseph, Susquehanna Co. Penna. ordained in 1836 and Father O'Riley from Great Bend, ordained in 1837, these were Missionary Priests. Father Fitzsimmons as well as Father O'Riley made two trips a year on foot from Friendsville and St. Joseph, they visited Towanda, Troy Rome, Ridgebury and several other places, they established St. Joseph's College in 1852, it was destroyed by fire Jan. 1, 1863. Father O'Riley seemed to be the spark plug of this Catholic organization, he had three nephews that were priests; it was Father O'Riley that took six team of oxen from a place near Friendsville, went to New York, brought back the machinery for a grist mill, prior to this the settlers in that section were compelled to go seventy miles to get their grain ground, he visited Ridgebury as well as other places on foot.
The people working for the canal at Towanda, collected money and purchased for him a horse and it was this Priest that helped and advised the canal diggers to take up land when the work was suspended on the canal; they settled at Durell, State Road, Standing Stone, Monroe, Pond Hill, Wysox, Rome, Ulster, Sugar Creek, Overshot, Franklindale, Greenwood, Mountain Lake, Windham, Wyalusing and Ridgebury.

Father O'Riley was killed in the railroad yards in Susquehanna while helping a lady out of danger, Oct. 4, 1873.

The first Catholic services in Bradford County were held at Asylum 1794, to 1799, this is the French Colony that settled opposite Rummerfield, west side of the Susquehanna River.

401 Black Sea frozen over for twenty days.
768 Black Sea and Dardenelles frozen over.
891 to 893 nearly all vines in Europe were killed by frost.
1236 The Danube was frozen to the bottom.
1403 Wolves were driven by the cold from Denmark across the ice to Jutland.
1519 Cortez invaded Mexico.
1622 First grapes in America were grown in Virginia.
1633 First rye in America harvested in Massachusetts
1632 First church in Boston.
1620 First white child born in the New England States was Peregrine White of the Mayflower, lived to be ninety-four.

1632 A ship arrived from England with supplies for the Puritans
1639 First Baptist Church in America at Providence, Rhode Island
1682 Penn Treaty with the Indians
1640 First charge of witchcraft in America at Charlestow, Mass. against Margaret Jones, she was executed.
1669 First silk manufactured in America was in Virginia
1671 First flax in America introduced into Maryland.
1652 First mint for coining money in New England.
1636 First public school in Boston.
1664 The Thames at London had ice 61 inches deep.
1636 Harvard College started at Cambridge, Mass.
1690 Every person in the Colonies was to be free, who believed in Christ.
1690 Feb. 8th, French Canadians and Indians killed everyone in Schnectady.
1692 Mennonites came to Pennsylvania, did not believe in oaths or in war.
1695 First rice in America, introduced in the Carolinas.
1698 First case of yellow fever in America at Philadelphia.
1691 Was so cold that the wolves entered the city of Vienna.
1701 Yale College started at New Haven, Conn.
1701 Captain Kidd executed in England for piracy.
1701 First hemp in America introduced in Mass.
1704 The Boston News Letter the first real newspaper in America by Bartholomew Green
1708 Hard coal used as blacksmith coal in the Wyoming Valley
1710 Nine foot frost in England
1710 The German Palatines came to New York State, then in 1727 they migrated to Wyoming and along the Susquehanna
1737 Ground in New England froze to a depth of four feet.
1741 Moravians first came to America
1744 Snowed in Portugal 23 feet deep.
1753 July 8th, Susquehanna Land Co. incorporated in Conn for land in Penna.
1755 General Bradford defeated at Fort Duquesne.
1760 First Universalist Society in America, John Murray their leader.
1763 The Pontiac War
1764 Spanish potatoes first grown in Mass.
1767 Zeisberger visited the Indians on Toodletown Creek.
1779 General Clinton lost some of his cannon in the Susquehanna River near Barton, N.Y. the place has been know as the Cannon Hole.
1779 General Sullivan buried sixteen of his men in Athens.
1779 First road in this section built by Gen. Sullivan.
1779 Colonel Thomas Proctor received a warrant to hold a Masonic lodge at Athens #19.
1770 Sept. 1st, Elizabeth Frost was the first child born in Bradford Co.
1770 First tea in America introduced into Georgia
1774 First general meeting of Congress at Phila.
1775 July 16, U. S. Postal System established.
1775 Washington appointed Commander-in Chief of the Army.
1776 May 10th, Second Continental Congress at Phila.
1776 First Wesleyan Methodist Society in New York.
1777 June 14th, The U.S. Flag was authorized by Congress, it is the third oldest flag in existence, it is older than the English or French, was first used at Fort Stanwick, Aug. 3, 1777.
1777 to 1783 not a white person in Bradford Co.
1777 An express was established between Wyoming and Hartford Conn, every two weeks.

1778 July 3rd to 5th Battle of Wyoming
1778 Colonel Hartley destroyed Indian Village on Toodletown Creek.
1779 Aug. 29th Battle of Newtown between Gen. Sullivan and Indians
1783 First settlement in Sheshequin.
1783 Sept 3rd, Treaty of Peace ending the Revolution, we lost 100,000 men.
1783 Mathias Hollenbeck started the first store in Athens, he planted the first apple trees and dug the first well.
1781 Cornwallis surrendered at Yorktown, Oct 19.
1788 Cotton first introduced in America in the southern states.
1783 1784, Great ice flood in this section caused considerable damage to cattle and property.
1782 June 20th, Great Seal of U. S. adopted.
1782 Daniel Bosworth came from Milford Conn. and settled on Chemung Flats.
1786 1787 Survey made of northern boundary of Penna. on 42nd parallel.
1787 Milltown laid out by John Jenkins.
1788 Prince Bryant sold mill to Shepherd and Shaw at Milltown
1789 March 12th, General Post Office established by Congress.
1789 Revolution in France
1790 Aug. 30th First patent issued in the U. S..
1790 Congress imposed duties on liquor distilled in the U. S.
1790 July 16th, District of Columbia established.
1793 First brickyard in Athens.
1792 July 8th, Washington D.C. chosen as Capital of U. S.
1790 Col. Pickering was one of the U. S. Commissioners at the peace treaty with the Indians at Athens
1792 April 2nd, First U. S. mint , first established at Phila. Pa.
1794 March 4th, founding of the United States Navy.
1794 Patent on cotton gin issued to Eli Whitney.
1796 First Masonic Lodge in this section, Ruler, Amity #70
1796 An act to establish schools all over Pennsylvania.
1795 Whiskey Rebellion in western Penna. and western Va.
1797 First schoolhouse in Milltown near the Rest Cemetery
1783 First house in Athens built by Andreas Budd on Lot 34
1785 First Ferry in Athens, known as Moores.
1790 The first Doctor in Athens was Stephen Hopkins.
1793 The people of Elmira and Painted Post raised $1500 to clean the Chemung River to allow rafting.
1795 - 1889 rafting on the rivers to Port Deposit, Maryland.
1795 The mother of Nerpemiah Northrup walked six miles to Sheshequin and return to marry Mr. Howard, she was 90 years old, lived to be 106.
1797 Athens township established.
1794 Road Athens to State Line.
1798 Shepherds mill at Milltown burned.
1798 Chester Prince buried in Milltown cemetery; fell from a horse.
1796 John Shepherd bought 1000 acres at $5 per acre, this includes the site of Waverly.
1796 All yellow pine in the valley killed by worms.
1799 Dec. 14th, death of George Washington.
1800 First tax in the U. S. on liquor.
1800 First post road by an act of Congress, April 23rd, signed by Pres. John Adams; Wilkesbarre to Athens, by way of Wyalusing, from Athens to Elmira, Painted Post, Bath and Canandaigua, Charles Mory and Cyril the first carriers between Athens and Wilkesbarre, every two weeks on foot.
1800 Old stone mill at Milltown started, capacity 1700 bushels per day, torn down in 1917

1800 First ark on Susquehanna River used to carry grain, 65 feet long. 16 feet wide, with 30 foot steering oars.
1810 Elmira Street was used for a stage line.
1809 Joshua Vought caught and tamed the first wild bees in Bradford Co.
1807 The Phelps brothers from Owego run the first raft of spars, 90 to 100 feet, one dollar each, light raft timber 14½ cents a cubic foot, white pine and oak 25¢ a cubic foot.
1800 First saw mill in this section, capacity four thousand feet in 24 hrs. good number one pine $5 to $7 per thousand.
1809 March 30th, Owego Turnpike Incorporated
1805 First town meeting in Athens.
1801 Jan. 1st, first post office in Athens.
1800 A worm came out of the ground, turned into a locust and killed all the trees in this section.
1803 A distillery started in Owego by Mr. Mack, he would distill rye for 1 gal. per bushel, corn, three quarts; oats, two quarts; sold whiskey 83¢ per gallon.
1809 Started carding machine in Milltown.
1810 Established stage coach, Towanda to Elmira, $2, leave Towanda three P.M. arrive in Elmira the next morning in time for breakfast.
1805 Oct 21st, Battle of Tralfalgar.
1801 First celebration of July 4th.
1805 Silas Wolcott came to Litchfield
1808 Thomas Munn came to Litchfield, they had thirteen boys and one girl.
1803 Isaac Fuller and Joel Campbell came to Bentley Creek.
1807 Samuel Bennett settled on Durkee Hill.
1807 Fulton invented the first steamboat.
1808 Mr. Shepherd built a woolen mill on Cayuta Creek.
1813 First school in Greens Landing, log building.
1817 Berwick Turnpike chartered, state donated 260 acres.
1823 Berwick to State Line on Bentley Creek completed, made free road 1847.
1816 American Bible Society formed in New York.
1812 Changed name from Ontario to Bradford County.
1812 First election in Bradford County.
1816 April 1st, Owego Bridge Co., Incorporated as a toll bridge.
1820 Bridge over the Chemung at Athens, this had wooden piers.
1812 The County took its name from Col. William Bradford, first Attorney General of Pennsylvania.
1816 By an act of Congress, one sheet of paper cost by mail 0 to 40 miles, eight cents, over 500 miles 25¢.
1807 Beginning March 31, snow fell for three days, five foot deep.
1813 First newspaper in Bradford Co., called the Bradford Gazette.
1815 Worst windstorm on record.
1812 Coal discovered on Barclay Mountain by Abner Carr.
1816 Frost in every month, three inches of snow in June, snowed the fourth of July, no crops, corn $2.50 to $5. per bu. wages 50¢ per day.
1818 Ridgebury Township Incorporated.
1821 State road, Athens to the State Line by way of Milltown.
1816 Stage coach to Owego to Bath by way of Athens, twice a week., by way of Milltown.
1814 Wolves were so bad that people did not go from Athens to Milltown in the day time.
1829 Aug. 9th, the first steam locomotive run in the U. S. was the George Stevensons, Strowbridge Lion, built in England, run from Honesdale to Carbondale on the Delaware and Hudson Railroad.

1823 April 16th, Southport toll bridge
1825 Chemung toll bridge
1829 April 18th, Smithboro toll bridge
1828 April, Chemung Canal Incorporated
1825 Fanning Mill invented
1825 Erie Canal opened
1825 Iron ore discovered in Towanda Creek
1826 First steamboat on the Susquehanna River
1821 Litchfield Township Incorporated
1820 Agricultural and Manufacturing Society Incorporated in Bradford Co.
1822 Isaac and Alvin Morley built saw mill, next year started a grist mill at Morley's Crossing
1821 Jerry Adams built tannery near State Line on Cayuta Creek.
1821 Chemung Turnpike Owego to Elmira, over what is now Chemung St. in Waverly.
1825 A blacksmith in Owego shod 80 team of oxen in a year.
1852 First bridge at Towanda, part by state and part by private stockholders, three span built by John Bottling.
1835 Jan. 17th, James Smithson of London gave $500,000 to start the Smithsonian Institute.
1836 Dec. 15th, Patent Office and Post Office at Washington burned
1836 Free Schools in Pennsylvania.
1836 Tozers Bridge built by private stock holders, called the Farmers Bridge, John Bottling, builder.
1836 to 1838 the original bridge at Towanda taken down.
1802 March 16th, U. S. Military Academy at West Point founded.
1807 Aug. 11, Fulton's steamboat makes first trip
1826 First Post Office at Milltown and Ridgebury
1829 Aug. 8, first railroad locomotive used in U.S. at Carbondale, Pa.
1823 Dec. 2, Monroe Doctrine announced by Pres. Munroe.
1819 Joseph and Ira Elsbree came from Albany N.Y. and settled in Warren Township
1830 Pottery factory started at Milltown
1830 Old canal first surveyed
1831 Aug. 19, First American passenger engine hauled the first train.
1834 Indian Territory set apart for the Indians.
1834 Brick house at Hayden's Corners built
1832 Nov. 26, first street-railway started operating in New York City.
1832 First railroad in this section built by Nicholas Biddle
1832 Lexington and Ohio railroad opened, used horse power.
1832 Railroad Elmira to Ralston, wood rails with strap on top.
1833 British Government paid slave holders in the West Indies.
1837 Guy Tozer sheriff of Bradford County.
1837 Stage coach Williamsport to Elmira, fare $2.00
1825 Shad fishing stopped when dams were built for canal.
1826 April 1, construction on first railroad in U. S. in Mass.
1827 The coldest autumn on record.
1829 From the 6th to the 19th of April, 1099 rafts and 23 arks passed Towanda, manned by 3083 men
1831 Jan. 15, Appearance of first locomotive built in U.S.
1833 They had an ox at Wysox that weighed 3200 lbs.
1834 May 14, ten inches of snow in Bradford County.
1835 May 20, snow 15 to 24 inches deep in this section
1836 Started West Branch Canal in Bradford County.

1837 Oct. 4th & 5th, 24 inches of snow in this section, thousands of black squirrels swarmed through the woods.
1840 Started working on the Canal in this section, worked two years.
1841 Wooden toll bridge over Susquehanna at Athens completed.
1842 100 families from this section that were working on the Canal went to Ridgebury.
1842 & 1843, long cold winter.
1842 Labor Party organized in several counties in Pennsylvania, their intent was to put laboring men in office, lasted only two years.
1843 Last bear killed within the boro limits of Athens.
1843 Athens Township had two fulling mills, one woolen factory, two grist mills and fourteen saw mills, population 1532.
1842 1849, work on Canal suspended.
1843 Last deer killed within the limits of Waverly.
1844 First iron smelting in the U. S.
1844 First upright rail manufactured in Baltimore Ironworks.
1842 North Branch Canal completed through Towanda.
1844 First telegraph message, Baltimore to Washington.
1845 Oct. 10, U.S. Naval Academy at Annapolis founded.
1846 May 13, war declared on Mexico.
1847 First adhesive postage stamp.
1846 Highest water in Susquehanna.
1846 Jan. 18, Treaty between U. S. and England, settling northwest boundary dispute.
1847 Bradford Co. Medical Association founded.
1847 Jan. 27, First telegraph line New York to Boston.
1848 One of the most destructive windstorms hit the central part of the state.
1848 Jan. 24, Gold discovered in California.
1849 Erie railroad opened in this section.
1850 May 4, Fire destroyed San Francisco, loss 4,000,000.
1852 First train Elmira to Binghamton.
1852 Harriett Beecher Stowe wrote Uncle Tom' Cabin.
1853 Bradford Co. Agricultural Society organized.
1851 512 squirrels killed by ten boys in one day.
1853 Last wolf killed in Bradford Co.
1854 14 inches of snow in this section, April 14th.
1853 Oct. 6 & 7, First county fair on court house grounds, Towanda.
1855 Mar. 8, Railway Suspension Bridge opened at Niagara
1854 Rail road Williamsport to Elmira.
1855 First fire department organized in Waverly by Joe Hallett.
1854 Elias Howe a machinist by trade, invented the first sewing machine. After spending eight years to get his rights, he used the royalties to equip and support a full regiment of men during the Civil War, he served as a Private.
1855 Jan. 5, Bradford County Teachers Association organized.
1855 First fire company in Athens, organized by Junction Iron Works.
1856 Barclay railroad completed, Barclay to Towanda, 16 miles.
1856 Church at Windham had 260 members.
1858 475 trout were caught in one day by three men, near Towanda.
1858 August 5th, first Atlantic cable completed.
1859 Oct. 16, Brown's raid on Harpers Ferry.
1858 Aug. 16, First Atlantic cable message from Queen Victoria of England to President Buchanan of United States.
1859 Snow July 4th, frost in every month

1860 Last panther killed in Bradford County.
1860 First steam saw mill in this section.
1860 Sept. 21, William Scott died.
1861 First battle of Bull Run, June 21.
1861 April 12, Fired on Fort Sumter which started the Civil War.
1861 Ridgebury had 267 farms occupied, 13 school houses, 4 black smith shops, 4 sawmills and 3 general stores.
1861 Republican Party came in to being.
1862 Mar. 9th, Battle between the Monitor and the Merrimac.
1863 In the first three month a great many children died in this section diphtheria and scarlet fever.
1864 Aug. 28, first railway mail service in the U. S. between Chicago and Clinton Iowa.
1864 May 14th and July 4th, frost with ice.
1864 Mar. 20, 20 inches of snow, high water in the Chemung.
1865 Suspension bridge at Wilawanna.
1865 At 11 P.M. Mar. 16th, the rivers had reached their highest point.
1865 April 9, the first Artillery fired the last shot in the Civil War.
1865 Flood took 40 sheep from the Point Farm, 10 head of cattle from the Shepherd farm, took out 2 bridges at Elmira and caused the canal and Erie railroad thousands of dollars damage.
1856 the caterpillar stripped the leaves from all of the oak trees in this section.
1865 Paper mill erected one mile north of East Waverly on Cayuta Creek.
1866 Sept. first train Waverly to Towanda.
1866 Temperature 100 in the shade July 12 to 19th.
1866 Engines on Erie Railroad were compelled to take on wood between stations.
1865 State Line and Sullivan Railroad.
1857 Land for Pine Plains school in West Sayre donated by Jacob Right.
1867 Alaska purchased from Russia.
1867 First train in Towanda.
1867 40 school teachers married in Bradford Co. during the year.
1868 8000 men used to cut ice on the Hudson, just above New York City.
1868 27,000 emigrants landed in Chicago.
1868 all of the canal boats loaded with grain, only one caught fire.
1867 First two engines used on the railroad, Waverly to Towanda were the Hornet and Wyoming, shipped from Patterson, N.J. by the Erie Railroad to Elmira from there by canal boat to Stone Port, this is where the old Athens tannery was located.
1868 Depot at Milan built.
1868 Towanda Coal Co. shipped 65,000 tons, July 1 to Dec. 3rd.
1868 12 wooden car wheels were used on the Hudson R.R., steel hubs and tires.
1868 Sept. 16th, Master Car Builders Association organized at Altoona.
1868 Fare on the Erie R.R. reduced from $9.45 to $8.00 Buffalo to New York.
1869 Depots at Athens and Ulster built.
1869 Union Bridge Co. started at Athens, at one time empolyed 475 men.
1869 First Lehigh Valley train in to Waverly.
1865 Bradford Co. lost 800 men in the Civil War, the VanCise family from Sheshequin sent nine sons into the army, the 141st Volunteers lost more men than any other regiment in the Federal Army, we had 4,000 men from Bradford Co. in the Civil War.
1869 Erie Railroad consolidated to Chicago.
1869 A charter was granted to build a railroad Athens to Ithaca.
1869 The long barn on the east side of the road was built.

1869 to 1874, the coal pockets for transferring of coal was on Erie St. in Waverly.
1870 Feb. 9th, U. S. Weather Bureau established.
1870 June 22, Congress provided for a Department of Justice.
1870 May 4th, Bradford Co. Historical Society organized.
1870 Perkins Post G. A. R. #202 organized at Athens.
1870 Keystoen Ave. in Sayre laid out.
1870 Athens tannery turned out 1,250,000 lbs of leather, nearly all went to England.
1870 Population of Barclay 2009
1871 Feb. 2nd fire in Waverly destroyed sixteen buildings, put twenty-five places out of business.
1871 The G. I. & S. opened.
1871 State Line and Sullivan completed.
1871 Wheel Foundry at Springs Corners started.
1871 Tioga Point Cemetery Inc. 10 acres donated by Chas. F. Welles, opened April 26, 1873.
1871 Plowed in Jan. and Feb.
1871 July 21st, Erie buys Tioga Railroad, Morris Run to Lawrenceville.
1871 Mar. 6th, Bought the Waverly, a Brooks engine, 31 tons , to be used between Waverly and Towanda.
1871 Aug. 1st, Erie had 370 engines in service.
1871 Sept. 8th, 80 trains through Waverly in 24 hours.
1871 Sept. 6th, started work on the Montrose Branch Railroad.
1871 Engine Stockton pulled 131 dump cars of coal Pittston to Waverly, heaviest load so far.
1871 Palace cars on Lehigh Valley Railroad.
1871 Fall Brook R.R. brings three trains to Waverly dailey for transfer Watkins, usually cola.
1871 Survey for railroad Athens to Troy by way of Smithfield.
1871 Dec. 2, Southern Central R.R. makes connections at Sayre, instead of Athens, with the Lehigh Valley.
1871 July 15th, Engines Welles and Piollet made the trip Waverly to Elmira with six cars in 21 minutes.
1872 April 19th, Engine 163 pulled 240 empty dump cars Sayre to Coxton, train 3600 feet long, 15 foot to the car.
1872 Started double tracking, Waverly to Towanda.
1872 Nov. 20, engine repair shops burned.
1872 Feb. 2nd, Waverly Opera House opened.
1872 North Branch Canal officially closed.
1873 Waverly Gas and Electric Co. organized.
1873 Depot at Sayre opened.
1873 Dec. 1, Brotherhood of Engineers and Firemen organized.
1873 April 22, 18 inches snow in this section.
1873 Erie started to double track in this section.
1874 Post Office at Sayre opened.
1875 June 14th, a killing frost.
1875 Jan 26th, the P. & N.Y. Railroad leased the Waverly and State Line R.R.
1872 First ballot used in England.
1872 June 8th, free delivery of mail instituted.
1876 Mar. 7, first telephone patented in U. S. by Alexander Graham Bell
1876 Chemung River bridge at Athens made a free bridge.
1876 Nov. 20, Engine Live Oak pulled 142 cars, Waverly to Elmira
1876 Nov. 20, 32,000 freight cars passed over the Lehigh Valley in the last 11 months, the year before 15,000.

1876 Oct. 9th, moved railroad office Towanda to Sayre.
1876 Lehigh had over 400 engines that were named as well as numbered.
1876 Feb. 25th, changed name from Factoryville to East Waverly.
1876 Plowed for oats Jan. and Feb. sowed oats March 1st.
1876 384,000 tons of coal produced in Barclay.
1877 Hail stones along Wyalusing Creek, piles 30 inches high.
1877 Oct 10 & 11, first Soldiers and Sailors encampment at Towanda fair-ground, 10,000 people in attendance.
1877 Stopped using passes on Erie R.R., mileage books were issued to employees.
1877 Started laying the third rail to Binghamton .
1877 Aug 12, First phonograph records recite for Thomas Edison its inventor.
1877 Nov. 21, First wedding in Sayre, Sara Lamont and Wesley DeLaney.
1878 First standard gauge engine on the Erie.
1878 South Waverly Incorporated.
1878 Foundation for shops started, machine 124 by 286, completed 1881, black-smith 64 x 110, round house 137 stalls, completed 1883, J.M.Weaver, Master Mechanic.
1879 2600 lbs. maple sugar shipped from Troy, Pa.
1879 Oct 21, First incandescant light completed by Edison.
1879 & 1880 R. A. Packer home built.
1879 Old wooden toll bridge at Towanda made a free bridge.
1880 Poor farm of Bradford County started, cost $150,000; 276 acres of woods and 75 acres of cleared land.
1880 Waverly Water Co. started
1880 Butter package factory opened at Milltown.
1880 Population of Sayre, 700 - 1891, 3200
1880 Aug. Lehigh Valley had four switch engines and the Erie three in Waverly yard.
1881 Drought from July 1st to Oct 1st, Susquehanna River lowest in 40 years.
1882 Pink eye in Bradford County.
1882 Worst hail storm known, stones large as hens eggs, Bradford Co.
1882 Stimson House built in Athens.
1882 Sept. 19, Mallory Post G. A. R. organized in Sayre, # 285.
1882 Stock cars on the Lehigh Valley R.R.
1882 Panama Canal started by the French.
1882 July 31st, Carlisle Indian School established at Carlisle, Pa.
1883 Sept 2nd, Brotherhood of Trainmen organized.
1883 D. L. W. Railroad first train through this section.
1884 Lehigh leases State Line and Sullivan Railroad.
1884 Car Shops at Sayre completed, 142 x 215 feet.
1884 Started double tracking Junction to Waverly.
1884 June 14th, Post Office at Wilawanna opened.
1884 March 21, Charles McDuffee died.
1884 Athens Furniture Works started, employed 100 men.
1884 Feb. 21, Robert Packer died in Jacksonville Fla.
1884 March 13, Standard time established in U. S.
1885 Montrose Branch leased to Lehigh Valley.
1885 May 30th, Mary Packer Cummings donated to the Packer Hospital Association her private residence and 20 acres of ground.
1885 Sayre Building and Loan Society established.
1885 July 22, Packer Hospital in Sayre opened.
1884 June 19th, Statue of Liberty received as a gift from France.
1886 Last appearance of wild pigeons in this section.
1886 Sayre Waterworks started.
1886 First Baptist Church in Sayre , 35 members.

1877 Episcopal Church in Sayre started.
1879 Sayre Arbor Association first year planted 1000 trees next year 800.
1886 Adopted railway signals on the Lehigh Valley.
1886 Raised the speed limits on freight trains on Erie from 15 to 20 miles per hour.
1886 Pullman shops in Elmira closed for good.
1887 First planing mill in Athens.
1887 White bridge north of Waverly and Chemung opened.
1887 Six of the VanCise boys joined Perkins Post G. A. R. at Athens.
1888 Mar. 21, Mr Beers Hughs grandfather died.
1888 Five Wednesdays in one month, wont happen again until 1991
1888 Bradford County had 393 Civil War pensioners on the roll.
1887 Robert Packer band organized.
1888 Athens mattress factory started, Stimpson and Elsbree.
1888 First High School in Athens, cost $21,000
1889 Adolph Hitler born in Braunan, Austria.
1889 Sayre yards completed, 21 acres, 6 acres for shops, employed 500 men.
1889 Athens Car and Coach Co. made all kinds of wagons, employed 25 men.
1890 Aug. 22, William Blossom and Richard Gastline were killed at the Athens fair grounds at the G. A. R. encampment.
1890 File factory started at Athens.
1890 Daughters of the American Revolution started, 145,000 members, 1500 local chapters.
1891 Sayre Times started.
1891 Athens had 8 boot and shoe stores, 3 blacksmith shops, 4 carriage shops, 1 coach factory, 1 cigar factory, 4 lumber yards, 2 harness makers, 3 livery stables, population 3229.
1891 Jan. 14th, Free mail delivery in Sayre started.
1891 1892 Geneva , Ithaca and Sayre double tracked to Buffalo.
1891 Sayre schools had 14 teachers and 800 pupils.
1891 Feb. 1st, Sayre Incorporated.
1892 Switchmens strike, twelve days
1894 Coxey's Army marched on Washington.
1894 Jan. 23, Waverly, Sayre and Athens street car started.
1894 April 10, snow fell for three days in this section, 16 to 24 inches.
1895 Feb. 7th, snow drifts forty feet high in this section.
1897 A number of rafts and postal boats passed down the Susquehanna.
1897 Jan. George Rutledge killed William J. Henry of Sayre.
1898 Dec. 10, We got the Philippines and Porto Rico.
1898 We got the Hawaiian Islands and we paid their debts of four million
1900 April 15, Paris exposition opened.
1900 Boxer Insurrection in China.
1900 Sept. 8, Tidal Wave at Galveston, 6000 lives lost
1901 May 9th, Pan-American Exposition opened in Buffalo.
1901 Dec. 12th, First wireless message across the Atlantic.
1901 First rural delivery in the U. S.
1902 May, Pennsylvania coal strike, 145,000 miners out, settled by Pres. Theodore Roosevelt.
1902 May 8, Saint Piere Martinique destroyed by eruption of Mt. Pelee, Fritz Marti, a close friend of mine lost his wife and two children.
1902 Sept 7, Test train on the Penna. and N. Y. division Lehigh Valley, 104 cars, 4014 tons, 84 miles, 17 miles per hour, engine 1102.
1902 Jan. 28, Andrew Carnegie gave $10,000,000 to establish the Carnegie Institute.

1903 Dec. 17, Wright Brothers first successful air flight.
1903 Dec. 30, fire destroyed the Iroquois theater in Chicago, 602 killed.
1904 All trainmen on Lehigh Valley received a raise, trainmen $2.30, Flagmen $2.10, Switchmen $2,20 per day.
1904 Bigler Johnson of Towanda killed his wife and niece, hung July 25, 1905.
1904 Ulster bridge collapsed.
1904 Jan 23 to 30th, 40 below, coldest ever known in this section.
1904 First rural delivery in Bradford Co. horses 25 miles per day, cars at the present time 56 miles.
1904 May 1st, we got the Canal Zone, $10,000,000 to Panama, $40,000,000 to the French Co. and later on $25,000,000 ~~government.~~ to Columbia
1904 Feb. 6th, Russian-Jap war started, treaty of Peace Jan. 2nd, 1905.
1904 May 1st, St. Louis Exposition started.
1904 Oct. 27, subway opened in New York City.
1905 Macadam road Milan to Athens.
1905 Dec. 8th, State bridge at Ulster opened.
1905 New shops at Sayre completed, machine 336 x 740, 48 stalls for engine repairs, 2 machine bays, 200 machines and 13 electric cranes.
1906 April 18, 19, San Francisco earthquake, $350,000,000 damage, 452 lives lost.
1907 March 4th, 16 hour law.
1908 James Street bridge opened at Towanda.
1908 April 22, seven Italians and several wounded at Laquin on log railroad.
1909 April 6, North Pole reached by Peary.
1909 Bradford County had 7336 acres of potatoes.
1910 March driest on record.
1911 Jan. 3rd, Postal Banks established in U. S.
1911 Dec. 14th, Captain Ronald Amundsen discovered the South Pole.
1912 Feb. 12th, China becomes a Republic.
1912 April 14-15, Steam ship Titanic, wrecked by ice floe off Newfoundland, 1517 lives lost.
1914 July 28th, First World War began.
1914 Jan. 28th, Archduke Francis of Austria and wife killed by bomb at SavaJeva, Bosnia, starting World War I.
1914 Aug. 23rd, Japan declared war on Germany.
1914 Steamship Ancon, first ship through the Panama Canal.
1915 Last hanging in Bradford County.
1915 May 7, Lusitania torpedoed and sunk.
1915 Oct. 22, First wireless message, Arlington to Paris.
1915 Transcontinental air service New York to San Francisco.
1917 March 12, U. S. started to arm merchant ships.
1917 April 6, U. S. declared war on Germany.
1917 Czar of Russia abdicated.
1917 May 18, Selective Service Bill, men 21 to 30.
1917 June 26, First American troops landed in France.
1917 Sept 15th, Russia proclaimed a Republic.
1917 Dec. 28th, U. S. took over control of railroads.
1917 Dec. Prohibition Amendment submitted to the states by Congress, 46 of the 48 states voted for it, effective Jan. 17, 1920.
1918 July 16th, Czar of Russia and family killed by Communists.
1917 We got the Danish West Indies, cost $25,000,000.
1917 Dismantled old grist mill at Milltown.
1917 New High School at Athens.
1918 May 15th, first regular air mail service in the United States.

1918 Nov. 11, end of World War I
1919 June 6, British dirigable crosses Atlantic, Scotland to America.
1920 Aug. 20, Women Suffrage Amendment.
1926 May 9, Commander Byrd completed first trip over the North Pole.
1926 Aug. 6, first successful sound pictures shown in New York.
1927 Dec. 13, Col. Lindbergh starts flight to South America.
1927 April 7, Television demonstrated , New York to Washington.
1927 May 21, first flight of Atlantic by Col. Lindbergh.
1928 Feb. 27, Los Angeles blimp, first non-stop flight to Panama.
1933 July 22, Wiley Post completes first flight around the world.
1933 Dec. 5th, repeal of 18th Amendment proclamation.
1933 March 4, Roosevelt inaugurated 32nd Pres. of United States.
1936 Nov. 16th, 3,000,000 Social Security blanks distributed to employees.
1937 May 28, Golden Gate Bridge opened at SanFrancisco, cost $35,000,000.
1937 July 2, Amelia Earhart Putnam lost in South Pacific on round the world flight.
1938 Oct 2, Federal Age and Hour Law goes into effect.
1939 June 7, King George and Queen Elizabeth visited the United States.
1939 Sept. 1, Hitler attacked Poland.
1940 Sept. 16, Selective Training and Service Act, all males 21 to 36 for one years training
1940 In the spring Germans moved on Denmark and Norway.
1940 Selective Service Act, Sept. 14th.
1940 Oct. 29th, start drafting of men first number drawn 158.
1940 Oct. 16, 17,000,000 men registered under conscription bill.
1941 Pres. Roosevelt asked Congress for Lend Lease.
1941 Winter, Germans got to the outskirts of Moscow without anti freeze for trucks and tanks, and winter clothing for men, 18 below zero.
1941 Dec. 7, Jap attack on Pearl Harbor.
1941 Dec. 8, United States declares war on Japan.
1941 Dec. 11, United States declares war on Germany and Italy.
1941 Aug. Roosevelt and Churchill meeting at sea.
1941 June 22, Russia invaded by Germany and Roumania.
1942 April 9, Bataan Hill in Philippines fall on account of lack of supplies.
1942 April 22, General Doolittle bombed Toyio.
1942 April 22, Registration of man power, 45 to 65 years of age.
1942 March 10, U. S. air force set up in India.
1942 Aug. 1, to Feb. 1943 Battle of Stalingrad.
1942 Jan 5, U.S declares war on Roumania, Hungary and Bulgaria.
1942 Aug 19, first U. S. Commando Forces raid Dieppe, France.
1942 Nov. 7, Invasion of North Africa.
1942 Nov. 20, Canadian Alaskan highway completed by U.S. Army.
1942 May 15, Gas rationing at noon in the East, balance of country Dec. 1, 1942, it ended at noon Aug. 15th, 1945.
1942 Jan 27, First Convoy of American troops landed in North Ireland.
1943 Dec. 1, Roosevelt, Churchill and Stalin meet at Teheran.
1943 Nov 22, Roosevelt, Churchill and Chiang meet at Cairo.
1943 July 10, allied forces under Gen Eisenhower invade Sicily.
1943 Mussolini thrown out as Premier of Italy.
1943 Jan 14, Roosevelt and Churchill open conference at Casa Blanca.
1944 June 4, Rome liberated by allied force.
1944 June 6, D Day invasion of France.
1945 May 8, War ends in Europe and Germany surrenders.
1945 Aug 14, Jap surrender

1945 April 12, Pres. Roosevelt died suddenly at Warm Springs, Ga.
1945 Wettest season on record, in this section, 49½ inches, average for the last sixty years 36 inches, snow fall 45 and 45/114 in.
1945 Damage in state in 1944 by dogs was $44,000, 2427 sheep killed, 11,149 chickens, 322 ducks, 810 turkeys, 329 rabbits, 17 hogs, 56 cattle, 13 goats and five horses. 606,000 dogs licensed, 24,222 dogs destroyed by plice.
1945 April 28, Benito Mussolini and girl friend Clara Petaoci put to death at Dongo, on Lake Como, Italy.

William Markham

GRADUATION RECORD OF OUR FRIENDS OF SAYRE HIGH SCHOOL

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Utley Teed | 1892 | Ruth Tozer | 1926 |
| Edwin L. Delaney | 1892 | Bill Mee | 1927 |
| Mary F. Delaney (Miller) | 1898 | J. Scanlin | 1927 |
| Frank Wood | 1900 | Paul Shedden | 1928 |
| Anna Enevoldsen | 19-7 | Mary Mee | 1929 |
| Claudia Merrill | 1910 | Alma Shellenberger | 1929 |
| Rae Keller | 1911 | Benita Ferris Kenish | 1930 |
| Rodney Stedge | 1911 | Mavis Hausknecht | 1930 |
| Henry Cowles | 1913 | Nelson Sickler | 1930 |
| Fred Elsbree | 1916 | Carl Haight | 1931 |
| Pauline Teed | 1916 | Naomi Hausknecht | 1931 |
| Floyd Bagley | 1918 | Bill Markle | 1931 |
| Ione Munn | 1918 | Virginia Keller | 1932 |
| Ed O'connor | 1918 | Margaret Ferguson | 1933 |
| Miriam Teed (Shilling) | 1919 | Alberta Kleckner | 1933 |
| Wallace Teed | 1919 | Sarah Kleinhauf | 1933 |
| Dorothy Tozer (Miller) | 1920 | Erma Duggan | 1934 |
| Clara Crawford (Frantz) | | Marjorie Tozer Kieffer | 1934 |
| A Krotzer (Kellogg) | | Angie Kelley | 1935 |
| Vernon Bortle | 1923 | James Davenport | 1937 |
| Robert Nausbaum | 1924 | Hilda Keller | 1937 |
| Hazel Haverly | 1925 | Ruth Grabb | 1938 |
| Gus Shellengerger | 1925 | James Minard Jr. | 1938 |
| Liela Forrest Ashley | 1925 | Phil Page | 1938 |
| Jessie Krotzer (Shaffer) | | Merna Tozer | 1938 |

MY DEFINITION OF A SELECTIVE SERVICE BOARD - WHAT IS COMMONLY CALLED A DRAFT BOARD

Let me give you an idea, in my own language, what that means; it will take quite a bit of explaining to let you know what I am driving at and to show you why it was necessary to have a Selective Service Board.

First of all, in this world there is now and has been at different times in the past, two economic views of thought - one is that our Government or Society should be run on a profit system and free enterprise, the more we waste or destroy the greater the opportunity the worker has to work and create more value giving them or part of them a livlihood and at the same time pile up profits for those who own our natural resources, machinery of production and distribution, that is called Capitalism.

The other is a belief that this world belongs to the people, all the people, that the land, natural resources, machinery of production and distribution should be run for use instead of profits, that is, what we use in common should be owned in common, such as schools, fire departments, highways etc. that what is used privately should be owned privately, such as our homes etc. this is called Communism.

Back in 1912 England and Germany held a disarmament Conference but it fell through on on account of France not being in on it; Germany at that time had the largest and most efficient army in the world, that is what President Theodore Roosevelt told the Kaiser, so it must be the truth, they also had a very efficient Navy, a per capita debt of only $10.50 while the English per capita was $104, at the pace Germany was going, in ten years more she would be mistress of the sea and England would be bankrupt; this would not do, something had to be done about it, so England and the United States started the propoganda press to work to make the world safe for Democracy, the other side sent Arch duke Francis and wife of Austria on a trip and when they got down in Bosnia, at a town called Sarajevo, someone carelessly tossed a bomb at the carriage and the Duke and his wife were killed, this touched off the spark of war, which both sides had been anticipating for years. The Czar of Russia who was allied with France and England started to mobolize, and then Germany, and every first class British Man of War was in the English Channel.

Go anywhere in the world and you will find English and American capital interinvested, such as Anglo-American and British-American, therefore these two countries are not only tied by blood ties but money ties, and this is what counts, regardless of what the rabble thinks.

Our foreign policy is handled at 10 Downing Street, London, not in Washington; London is the money center of the world, therefore the Anglo-Saxon race and their colonies are compelled to stick together, let it come hell or high water.

We had to get into this war someway and set the American people against Germany, not that the American people had anything against the German people, but we had to arouse our people to the fighting pitch by propoganda for the protection of American investments that were tied in with the English investments. Our press claimed that the Germans fired on hospital ships, which they did not; then the Lusitania was stopped by a German Sub, the English Captain ran up the American Flag and went on his way. He made his brags all over England, the next time this ship left the American port loaded with munitions, the American passengers were warned to stay off the ship, but they took passage regardless of this warning and on May 7, 1915, off the coast of Ireland she was torpedoed and sunk, this aroused the American people to the point where they were ready for most anything, especially if war profits and war wages were in sight.

After they got through with this slaughter the world woke up and found the Government of Russia or its people decided to run the country in the interest of all the people, and an attempt was made to split this country in three parts, England was to have the western third, the French the center and the Japs the eastern, the Americans were in the north west and the east, but no one has ever been able to explain what we were doing in Russia with an Army. They could not conquer the country so they built a ring of buffer states around her and nineteen nations took part in blocking her.
In 1919 we began to arm Germany, ~~to arm Germany~~ to build up an army to fight the idea of Communism, not the Russian people.

We gave Germany millions of dollars and allowed her to float millions of dollars of worthless bonds and securities in this country, we sent her an unlimited amount of raw material and we did nothing when she broke her treaty and invaded Alsace Lorraine and Austria, or when Japan, who was allied with England violated the Kellogg pact, or the guarantee of the open door in China, or when Germany and Italy helped Franco in Spain overthrow a legally elected government, we of course were neutral, but the crews on British ships on the Atlantic seaboard mutinied rather than to ship nitrates and munitions to Franco, the American people said nothing, we were getting profits and the workmen were getting work, so why should we worry about thousands of defenseless women and children that were being killed in Spain by American ammunition anymore than we are worrying today about the 70,000,000 East Indians being slaughtered by Japanese soldiers and American ammunition and food.

Our late President made this speech in Boston, Oct. 29th just prior to Presidential election and he promised the fathers and mothers again and again that they would not have to send their sons to fight on foreign soil; but we got into it just the same, in fact we were in it from the beginning.
The Standard Oil Company which is American and the Shell Co. which is British own oil properties all over the world, more particularly in the near east, where all our trouble with the Russians is going on at the present time.

The President as Commander-in-Chief of the Army and Navy gave the Navy orders to fire on German subs, this was a declaration of war without the consent of the U. S. Senate, at the time we were neutral and we were one of the several world subscribers to a world agreement fixing the three mile limit, we had to spring this on to the American people gradually. On Sept. 16, 1940 we created a law making all males 21 to 36 liable for one years training, then they added to this on Dec. 20th requiring all males 18 to 65 to register, those between 18 and 45 were subject to military sevice and later they dropped this age limit.

The first registration was held Oct. 16th, 1940 when 17,000,000 men registered, a lottery was created and Oct. 29, 1940 the Secretary of War Stimson, blindfolded pulled a number out of a glass bowl and it was 158, and the war was on, the Government created something like 6500 Draft Boards and Appeal Boards all over the U. S. and its possessions.

The Draft Board members were to serve free gratis; of course cute little buttons and identification cards, numerous papers to sign, this lent dignity to your position. This collection was furnished by your Uncle Sam.

My definition of a Draft Board is this, of course I dont mean all Draft Boards. They pick out three old ladies, if you know what I mean, men that were in their dotage, men that had nothing to do or no where to go, this outfit was to read government circulars, all Draft Board literature, and the more they read the less they knew. They were supposed to do and act that which the higher-ups suggested, now get this word "suggested."

One of the members resigned, whether he was to young for this job, I dont know. A representative of the state organization asked me to take his place;

I informed him I would help in any way I could; when I was notified that I had been officially appointed, I was sent papers to sign, my little pin, card etc., armed with this collection I made my way to our local Selective Service Board #2, Sayre, Bradford Co., Pa. this was the 24th day of February 1944. I found a man that had lived in the same block with me for years, but I had never met him, a Minister of the Gospel, and one of the best looking Chief Clerks and one of the most efficient, also a bachelor who knew his way around.

I have worked with a great many organizations in my misspent life, but I found this collection agreeable as any that I ever worked with and it was a pleasure to go along with them.

The Chief Clerk got married as could be expected and we thought we would be on the rocks but we got another of the same type as the first and we thought we were a pretty hot Draft Board, regardless of what the public thought of us.

I was assigned to a chair between the Minister of the Gospel and the Chief Clerk, I soon found out that I would have to master a new language, the rest of the members thought that I stuttered, but I didnt I was trying to master a language that could be used in the presence of ladies and Ministers of the Gospel.

I also found that the government had a War Labor Board, money was appropiated by Congress for their salaries, they were supposed to be a very high techinal outfit, that is, they were supposed to be able while standing in the doorway of a plant to pick out all the men that were not essential to that plant, just at a glance; they were also supposed to be able to go to a farm and with one look tell the true conditions of the farm and the required help to operate it; they in turn would notify the Draft Board; the clerks would classify the men and the old ladies would sign the papers; when in reality this outfit was created to pay back a political debt to the small fry politicians, regardless of their qualifications; they were the Draft Board, not the ones that were appointed for that purpose.

I also found that the Appeal Board was created with the same idea in view as the power of pardon given to our Governor, that is, the Draft Board might get one in that was not intended for the draft but for something better according to his political pull or money. I would cite you a recent case of just what I mean; the Governor of New York State just pardoned one of the greatest white slavers in the U. S. After serving a short time I woke up to the fact that I had a car, I had forty years experience supervising and handling men along mechanical lines and I also had a fair knowledge of farming, then I took over our own job of checking all of our men, I would write the Draft Board a letter notifying them of the conditions as I found them and my recommendation.

We were told by the War Board, that the farmers and the traveling public that the people were tricky and dishonest, but in a short time I became convinced that 95% of the people were honest and were willing to go along with the Draft Board if they understood the rules and regulations, which 50% of the Draft Boards dont understand.

Our Draft Board is different than any other Board in the country in a great many ways. In this way, we take a boy into the army, and I consider that I'm yellower than that outfit they have been fighting, if we dont look after the welfare of his family, if in need of help. Any boy called into the service can write me or the Draft Board and I will run any errand that he might request or get any information that I can get that he wants, except the conduct of his wife, and that is just too heavy and too hot for us old ladies to handle; and what a great consolation it has been to the boys at the front to know they had someone back home that would help them out and I have heard from a great many.

A great many people have written soft mushy letters to the service men but there are a very few that are willing to spend time and money to help them out, I will explain what I mean: when the men started coming back from the service, we asked for an advisory committee to help the boys get back their jobs and help adjust them to the civilian way of life, only two men in this valley have raised a hand to help them.

One thing a member of the Draft Board should bear in mind is the minds of the people are not normal at this time and due consideration should be given to the old people who have only one boy to look to for support and protection, especially if they live in the country and live a great distance from their neighbors.

The first duty of the Draft Board is to see that production is given every break, then transportation, then the health and welfare of the war workers; that is to see that there are plumbers, electricians, repair men and Doctors to take care of the home front, then pick out all that are not essential for the above purposes.

One outstanding feature about our Board is this, we have a Republican, a Democrat and a Socialist, and any man coming in to start a political is stuck before he gets in side the door, as there will always be two against him regardless of what side he takes.

Another advantage this Board has over the other Boards is; if a good healthy looking specimen of manhood was called into the office and if the Reverends spiritual argument did not arouse any patriotism in him and he could not be convinced that he should be in uniform, then I took him in another room and reverted to my own language and inside of five minutes he was either convinced or he was unconscious.

A great many married women come to the house and to the Board wanting me to talk to their husbands, claiming they were beat up, ill-treated in various ways or running with some other woman, a great many times I have been able to convince them that they had one of the best husbands in the valley and if they did not go back and look after him some other cutie would, when you asked them to put it in writing and sign their name often times they would refuse, and when they did sign we did not make a decision until the husband had been given the opportunity to tell his side of the story; at time his argument was not convincing and he was put in the army regardless of his classification, this is one of strict rules of the Selective Service; other time after hearing his side he was told to go back to work and forget it. A few women tried to put their husbands in the Service but upon investigation it was plain to be seen what their object was.

It is very easy for some people to say that a certain boy is no better than some other boy to be in the service, but in the opinion of the Draft Board the qualifications of this boy might make him more essential to the production end of this war than he would be in the armed service.
This is the job of the Draft Board to see that every able bodied young man was in the place best fitted for him.

In our opinion, a few of the boys were not all there mentally, and if we sent them down for examination they would come back 4F and we would lose control of their services and they would be of no benefit to any one. We tried to place them where they would be the most help to the war effort.
The traveling public dont know these things and will criticize the Board for poor judgement and will accuse the Board with favoritism and graft, but if they will come to the board we might be able to explain to them that we are not so far off after all.

Some people think the streets are full of draft dodgers, one should be careful when you accuse a boy of this as apparently he may be all right but the Doctors in WilkesBarre have pronounced him unfit for the service and I will defy anyone to point to just one boy that has been shown favoritism or is out of the service through graft, and I believe that we can prove that you are haywire instead of the Draft Board, according to the records of which you no nothing about.

Out of four hundred twenty-two Draft Boards in Pennsylvania, this outfit that I belong to is the only one that recognizes straight seniority according to the contract that the employer signed with organized labor, regardless of the G I Bill of Rights and if the state changes our decision then they change the Draft Board with it.

Just a sample of the many unsigned letters coming to the Board. letters informing us that certain men are not living with their wives, I dont know what the Draft Board can do about that; dozens of letters come into the office complaining about certain men going with other women and their own wives are neglected, they forget that these are cases for the court instead of the Draft Board, sometimes we receive very touching letters from mothers as regards their only boy, but they are promptly investigated and due consideration given them, sometimes we get a list of a dozen names who the people think ought to be in the Army, we check every one of them with our files and I will acknowledge that once in a great while we find one whose case is a little shady, it is promptly investigated and proper corrections made

In my personal opinion if a farmer has three boys of military age and himself, one should go to the service, but if he has sixteen points for each able bodied man connected with the farm it is the law and nothing can be done about it.

The best of all are the letters that are addressed to me, in case I don't make a decision in their favor; I am accused of every crime on the calendar, and some of these charges may be true but it seems to me I should get a break once in a while, but as a rule these charges are forgotten and we go on with our business.

As a matter of record I want to quote a letter that was written to the Board:

"Chairman Draft Board
Sayre, Penna.

I dont suppose you would be interested in a good healthy young speciman of manhood for the Army, a little prodding around a certain haystack with a pitchfork on O. L. Fishes farm at Lime Hill would probably scare out a pretty fine specimen for the armed service.

Reakon he has been hidden under this same old stack for a long time. Brought home early to avoid the big push.
Just a hint, but he has good qualifications, good eater, sleeps well, just a little lazy but otherwise O K.

Lem and Oinie

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